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Activities of the Department of Agriculture

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Secretary of Agriculture

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE is divided into seventeen bureaus. It has at present an army of 21,000 employees, something over 4,000 of whom are in Washington and 17,000 scattered all over the United States. These latter come in contact day after day with the farmers and with the business men throughout the country. They have to do with the county-agent work, with the eradication of diseases among live stock, with plant diseases, insect pests, market reporting, the Weather Service, the protection of the forests, and thousands of other activities.

The present regular appropriation for the department is approximately \$33,000,000. Out of this sum, however, about \$2,000,000 is set aside for the Weather Service, some \$6,000,000 for the Forest Service, and provision is made also for the maintenance, in part, of the meat-inspection service, for the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, etc.; so that the actual amount of money spent by the department directly for agriculture is, in round numbers, only ten or twelve millions of dollars.

How Department Affects Every American

In the first place, it should be realized that the industry which the Department of Agriculture is designed especially to serve has an invested capital of over eighty billions of dollars. Take all the railroads in America, all the manufacturing institutions—iron, steel, and all the rest—add them all together, and you will have just met the capital invested in this business of agriculture. The agricultural and live-stock product of this country last year was valued at twenty-five billions of dollars—a sum equal to our national debt at the present time, and to one-half the whole wealth of France.

How do these bureaus come in touch with you? Take one feature: The ham you eat for breakfast has been

passed upon by an inspector of the Bureau of Animal Industry. The method of handling your eggs in storage and transportation has been studied and improved. The Bureau of Chemistry has seen to it that there are no injurious ingredients in your catsup. When you put maple sirup on your cakes, this bureau has seen to it that if the product was labeled maple sirup it was maple sirup.

The cotton in your automobile tires is stronger and more durable than that used in the past, because the department has developed long-staple cotton industries—has taught farmers how to produce cotton of better fiber. Your clothes—the department touches you there, not only through its work with cotton and wool, but through its extremely valuable results in developing dyes and dye materials which will help to make us independent of foreign supplies. Your shoes—specialists have developed methods of treating leather that prolong its life, and other specialists are teaching farmers how to prepare hides and skins with the least damage and waste. Your medicine—the department sees to it that the labels on it do not say it is a remedy for such and such a thing unless it actually is a remedy.

Even in your recreation hours the department is with you. Its protective hand reaches out to the wild animals and provides game for your hunting. It keeps the national forests spick-and-span for your vacation.

The Weather Service is a part of the Agricultural Department. You know that it puts out the storm signals; you know it forecasts the weather; but do you know that it influences the icing of the cars for your fruit? Do you know it influences the shipment of your vegetables? There are a dozen places at which the Weather Service touches you that you do not realize.

Good roads have been devised and tested by the Bureau of Public Roads, and the wear and tear under all sorts of traffic conditions has been studied by it. This bureau will supervise the expenditure of government and state funds for roads in the next twelve months of considerably more than half a billion dollars.

Some of the Results Accomplished

Let me mention some of the general results that have been accomplished by this department of the government. Since 1880, taking the country as a whole, there has been a gradual increase of 25 per cent in the yield per acre of the principal crops, notwithstanding the fact that we have placed under cultivation a great deal of new land, that we have taken deserts and made farms out of them, and that we have removed the timber and established farms on the cut-over areas. Corn, for example, increased 10 per cent, oats 24 per cent, and potatoes 33 per cent. The acre yields for other field crops have increased 16 per cent. Better methods, the introduction of improved machinery, the development and planting of larger-producing varieties, the elimination of plant diseases and insect pests, are some of the factors contributing to this happy result. And yet some ask whether the farmer is lying down—whether he is doing his part!

Production also has kept up with the increase in population. During the period from 1856 to 1874 the average production per capita of the six principal cereals was 38 bushels; from 1905 to 1914 it was 52 bushels—an increase of 14 bushels. The production of corn increased from 23 to 27 bushels per capita; wheat, from 6-1/5 to 8 bushels; oats, from 4 3/4 to 13 bushels; cotton, from 36 to 60 pounds; and milk, from 84 gallons in 1899 to 96 gallons in 1919.

Meats have shown a decline in production per capita, but we have a larger variety of foods today than we ever had before—more fruits, more vegetables, more cereals—and our diet is more varied. In 1900 there were produced 248 pounds of meat per capita; in 1914, 182 pounds—a decrease of 66 pounds; and in 1919, 222 pounds—an increase over 1914 of 40 pounds per person. Notwithstanding the reduction in the per-capita production of meats, we are still exporting large quantities.

The farm workers have increased in number from 5,900,000 in 1870 to 13,700,000 in 1919, and the production of each farm worker in terms of leading cereals also has increased. In the period from 1856 to 1874 each farm worker produced an average of 266 bushels annually; in the period from 1906 to 1914 the average was 406 bushels; while in the five years 1915 to 1919 the average production per farm worker was 418 bushels.

Farmer Doing His Part

These figures are interesting—particularly so in connection with the discussion of the cause of the high cost of living. The cost-of-living problem is a mutual one for all of us. It is the farmers' problem, it is the laborers' problem, it is the business men's problem; and we must all work together to meet the situation. If

there are more men on the farms, farming more acres, each acre producing more per acre, and each man producing more per man, giving each and every one of us today more of the six leading cereals per capita than we have had before, it seems to me the farmer is doing his part pretty well.

During the war, in spite of the labor shortage, the farmers increased their planted acreage by 33,000,000 acres, and their yield by 635,000,000 bushels, above the average for the pre-war period. In response to the department's request to increase the acreage of winter wheat in the fall of 1918 to 47,000,000 acres, they actually planted 49,000,000; and the following spring they planted over 22,000,000 acres of spring wheat, which was up to the record. Certainly we must appreciate that, under the conditions then existing, with the farmers producing food as they did produce it, they saved the situation.

When the war broke out we owed Europe some \$500,000,000, and we were wondering how we were going to pay when we should be called upon to do so. Yet in a single year the exports of farm products from America increased by \$500,000,000, putting the balance on the other side of the ledger.

Some Specific Things

It might be interesting to enumerate some of the specific things accomplished. There were, in Arizona, New Mexico, and other parts of the Southwest, tens of thousands of acres which grew nothing worth mentioning. The Agricultural Department brought from Egypt a species of cotton called Egyptian cotton—and today there is no Egyptian who would recognize it. By careful breeding and selection we have got today a long-staple cotton—one of the best cottons in the world, and one which adds to the length of life of every garment made from it.

What are the results in dollars and cents? Twenty million dollars' worth of cotton last year, because of a department activity, from a source that would not have existed except for that activity! And we are spending for the development of our entire agriculture *only* ten or twelve million dollars a year!

Story of Durum Wheat and Sorghums

In the great Northwest a similar situation existed. There were thousands of acres of semi-arid land which would not grow crops. So the department went out and found a hardy, drought-enduring wheat—the durum—bred it up, and developed it. What does it mean to the United States to have produced each year from twenty to forty-five million bushels of wheat on ground where there would not have been any wheat? A quarter of a million dollars was all that was spent to produce a crop which, year after year, provides \$50,000,000 or more; and, directly or indirectly, every individual and every business is benefited.

Take the grain and forage sorghums. The Southwest could not grow Indian corn satisfactorily; so these



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men in the department searched the world for other crops that could be grown there. Last year there were 125,000,000 bushels of Kafir corn and other grain sorghums produced where before there was none. And a few thousand dollars in the hands of earnest and capable men was responsible for much of this.

Saving the Orange Culls

Out in California the department found cull oranges and cull lemons selling at \$5 a ton. It established a citrus-fruit laboratory to discover uses for the culls. As a result, the by-products of lemons last year were 1,500,000 pounds of citric acid, 500,000 pounds of citrate of lime, and 50,000 pounds of lemon oil. Twenty concerns are now engaged in the manufacture of products from cull oranges. The total products last year were 6,000,000 pounds of marmalades, jellies, etc.

In northern California there were thousands of acres of land growing nothing. The land was worth \$5 to \$10 per acre. For less than \$200,000 the department introduced and developed a rice, by foreign exploration, research, and careful breeding; and today a rice crop valued at \$21,000,000 is produced in that territory.

We might not have a navel orange today if it were not for the Department of Agriculture. The oldest tree—among the descendants of the Washington navel orange which the department introduced from Brazil—is still growing in the greenhouse on the grounds in Washington. Last year 13,000,000 boxes of California-grown navel oranges were distributed among the people of this country.

American Figs and Dates

Another thing the department has introduced is the Smyrna fig. At first the trees would not bear fruit. By careful observation it was found that certain small wasps were the fertilizing agents. The wasps were brought over, and still the fig trees were infertile. By further observation and study it was discovered that, besides the Smyrna fig, the wasp required the Capri fig to breed in. So the Capri was brought over. With the wasp and the Capri fig and the Smyrna fig together, it is all settled, and soon America will be producing her own high-quality figs.

There is an interesting story about dates. There is a date industry in America, and it is producing a better date than you can find in any other place in the world. Some of the best dates have but few offshoots a year through which the trees can be multiplied. The inferior dates have twenty or thirty offshoots yearly. To prevent the planting of the inferior trees, the department sends to Egypt for offshoots of the choice varieties. Four thousand dollars spent now means tens of thousands saved in the future.

Again, take the cotton boll weevil. You know the fight that has been waged on this pest for years and years. We have been spending much money to fight the insect. It has been discouraging work, but the experts of the department did not give up; and now the tide

has turned. They poison the weevil's drinking-water. His drink is the dew on the cotton leaves in early morning. So they poison the dew—and that is the end of the boll weevil. Last year this method was tested out on an abandoned farm, where the farmer had said, "I give it up," and had moved. The department divided the field into three strips. The unpoisoned strip on one side produced 48 pounds of cotton; the strip on the other side produced 60 pounds of cotton; the strip down the middle, where the drinking-water was poisoned, produced 480 pounds of cotton! What does it mean to America that this department should be equipped to do these things?

Fight on Hog Cholera

In 1903 three scientists in the Department of Agriculture discovered the cause of hog cholera. They also worked out an effective method of preventing the disease. Since 1913 the losses from it have been reduced over 60 per cent. The death-rate per thousand, which was as high as 144 in 1897 and 118 in 1914, had been reduced to 41 in 1919. What does it mean to reduce the losses from hog cholera from 144 to 41 per thousand? Just a little matter of \$41,000,000!

The Bureau of Animal Industry estimates that, in the year from May 1, 1918, to May 1, 1919, hog cholera destroyed 2,800,000 hogs in the United States, whose value, as of January 1, 1918, would have equaled \$62,000,000. Ten per cent of that, or \$6,000,000, would pay two-thirds of the ten- or twelve-million dollar appropriation for agriculture.

The discovery that the mosquito was responsible for yellow fever was based upon the work previously done by scientists of the Bureau of Animal Industry, which proved that Texas fever could be carried only by the cattle tick. If it were not for that discovery, we might not have the Panama Canal today, because we first had to get rid of yellow fever.

I want to refer to the wheat rust, which affects every business and every family in America. Millions and millions of dollars are lost because of the black rust in wheat. The common barberry is the host plant of the fungus which causes wheat rust; and the department is co-operating with the states in locating and destroying the barberry bushes, thus greatly reducing the spread or prevalence of the disease—a plant disease that has cost the United States a loss of 200,000,000 bushels of wheat in a single year.

No Politics in Department

There is no politics in the Department of Agriculture. Out of 21,000 positions there are only four that are not under the civil service—the secretary, the two assistant secretaries, and the chief of the Weather Bureau. We have only one assistant secretary now. The vacancy has been offered to six men, and, outside of one of them, I do not know their politics. I hope that one of the two places will be filled by a Democrat and the other by a Republican, because, as a business proposition, it is vitally important that, on the fourth of next March,

there should be someone in the secretary's office who, no matter what the outcome of the election is, may be allowed to stay there.

About the County Agents

Now, I shall briefly refer to the matter of the county agents. Men go from farm to farm saying to the farmer: "Test your seed; get rid of the cattle tick; fight smut in oats; do this and do that." A member of Congress says it is money thrown away: "The crime of the thing is that whenever you appropriate a dollar you must make the states put up another dollar. They are writing and protesting about it."

It is odd that, when the county-agent movement was begun, the government had to pay practically all the expense, then two dollars to one, then fifty-fifty, while today the states, counties, and farmers are putting up about nine million dollars to the government's six in order to support the county agents; and yet the congressman to whom I have referred says it is ridiculous and a waste; that these men wear patent-leather shoes and high collars and do not get onto the farms. The farmers themselves say they get more direct benefit from the county agent, working under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture and in co-operation with the state agricultural colleges of America, than they do from any other source in the country. Thirty-eight per cent of them give farm bureaus and the county agent first place.

Reducing Appropriations False Economy

Men in Congress talk about economy in providing funds for the Department of Agriculture. I cannot here go into the matter of appropriations in detail. I will only say that vitally important activities are to be cut down, if the action taken on our appropriation bill prevails. Even now I am receiving inquiries for men to go out and help eradicate tuberculosis in cattle; but the answer invariably is: "We cannot send a man to help you get rid of tuberculosis in your cattle, because we haven't the money."

It is a little disappointing and a little discouraging to the men who are giving their efforts and their time to this work not to be equipped. While many of them are grossly underpaid, they do not ask the salaries that are paid in commercial establishments. But they do ask that they be properly equipped. If they are able to accomplish such practical results in eradicating the boll weevil, getting rid of the wheat rust, eliminating hog cholera, stamping out tuberculosis, bringing in new grains, growing rice where it did not grow before, establishing long-staple cotton in a new territory—all these things and more—and devote their time at salaries considerably less than those paid elsewhere, certainly it is up to us to see that they are properly equipped.

Palmer says the price of meat has been falling for three months. At the same rate of speed it should reach normal level in 832 years.—*New Haven Times-Leader*.

GRAZING ON THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

OUR READERS will remember that there was organized in Salt Lake City last July an association, known as the "United Stockmen's Association for Control of Public Grazing Lands," whose sole function is expressed in that title. At the meeting in Salt Lake City it was the consensus of opinion that Senate Bill 1516, introduced by Senator King, of Utah, authorizing the establishment by proclamation of "grazing commons upon any of the unreserved, unappropriated public land of the United States chiefly valuable for grazing," under the administration of the Secretary of Agriculture, would, with some slight modifications, be satisfactory to the stockmen of the West. The officers of the new organization were directed to endeavor to secure the passage of the King bill, with a few changes.

The Senate Committee on Public Lands asked the Secretary of the Interior for a report on the King bill, and under date of October 24, 1919, Secretary Lane submitted a report, in which he discussed at length the provisions of that bill, the 640-acre homestead act, and the conflict which would arise if the King bill were enacted. In his communication the secretary reviewed the land laws of the United States and the intent of Congress as expressed through those laws, and stated that, in his opinion, the King bill should not be enacted. Among the reasons assigned for his conclusion were the following:

In my judgment, there is no room for the operation of the stock-raising homestead law and this bill within our public domain. Either one or the other must yield precedence, and the enactment of the present law should be accepted as the final verdict of Congress on this question. But if the measures were not incompatible, I should be averse to any legislation that contemplates such a broad withdrawal of our remaining public lands from the general operations of the settlement laws on which alone the federal government must rely for their actual development, and to which the states must ultimately look for their reduction to private ownership and due assumption of the burdens of taxation with other lands of like character.

It was the theory of the stock-raising homestead bill that it would promote and encourage the production of live stock in the West, and that theory has not been disproved up to the present time. Moreover, the last few years, because of the war and war conditions, have necessarily curtailed to a large extent the seeking of homesteads on the public domain and the development thereof. It may be safely assumed that there will be an increased demand for some time in the future for homesteads from returning soldiers and other citizens relieved from war activities. In my opinion, they should not, in this situation, be denied the opportunity through the creation of a vast grazing reserve within the limits of which not a single homestead entry under any of the homestead laws of the United States could be made, except the so-called forest homestead, not exceeding 160 acres in extent, and only allowable in the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture.

I believe that the public domain should be open to legitimate development and use, and not reserved and held out by the making of large withdrawals in the future. Congress has recognized the advisability of releasing large areas already withdrawn by its action upon the bill for the development of deposits of coal, oil, gas, phosphate, and sodium, and the water-power bill.

I am therefore of the opinion that, instead of adopting the policy proposed in this bill, of practically reserving from disposition the remaining public domain for the benefit of the few, it should continue open to acquisition by the general public under the homestead and other public-land laws—at least until such time as the *bona fide* demand therefor shall have ceased or greatly diminished.

It should be remembered that the use of the public lands by those engaged in live-stock industry is not a right, but has been permitted only by sufferance, and that nothing has been paid or is being paid therefor. Consequently those who have enjoyed this bounty for many years are not in position or possessed of such rights or equities as warrant the exclusion of their fellow-citizens from the opportunity of acquiring a portion of this land. If it be the desire of Congress that the grazing on public lands pending their disposition should be regulated and controlled, that end could be accomplished by granting authority to make reasonable rules and regulations for the grazing thereof and the payment of a moderate fee for the privilege, leaving the lands, however, always open to prospecting, exploration, settlement, and entry by citizens under the various public-land laws. Any such regulation of grazing on the public lands should also include reserved lands of like character, and be under jurisdiction and control of the department now charged with the administration of the public-land laws, so that the prospecting, settlement, and disposition of the lands and their use for grazing prior to such disposition may be consistently and harmoniously administered in the interest of all concerned.

The Department of Agriculture was also asked for its opinion on the King bill, and Secretary Meredith late in March submitted a report indorsing it. No hearings have yet been held on this measure, and it is extremely improbable that it will be favorably acted upon by the Public Land Committee of the Senate. The present sentiment in Congress seems opposed to the principle of this bill. The proposition of a western governor to turn the public domain over to the states is not making much headway in Congress. While that plan has more friends now than when it was projected, it still lacks many votes to secure its passage. The liberalizing of the provisions of the 640-acre act will result in a much larger amount of land being filed on under that act, and the temper of Congress will be to do nothing until such filings cease.

In view of the vigorous attitude of the House Committee on Agriculture toward a pronounced advance in grazing fees on national forests, and the practical certainty that, if the grazing on the remaining public domain was placed under the administration of either the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Interior, a stiff charge would be made for such grazing, many stockmen are inclined to think that it is unwise at present to attempt to secure the legislation comprehended in the King bill, even if there was a fair chance of success. That, we understand, is likewise the opinion entertained by the officials of the United Stockmen's Association who were recently in Washington. They feel that it is better to allow the matter to remain quiescent for the present. Nevada stockmen are considering the advisability of having a grazing bill introduced in Congress to apply solely to that state. As conditions in Nevada are vastly different from those in any other western state, such a bill might meet with some favor.

LIBERALIZING THE 640-ACRE ACT

THE 640-ACRE STOCK-RAISING HOMESTEAD BILL became a law on December 29, 1916. In the regulations issued by the Commissioner of the General Land Office shortly after the passage of that bill it was stated:

The lands to be designated are those the surface of which is, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, chiefly valuable for grazing and raising forage crops, which do not contain merchantable timber, are not susceptible of irrigation from any known source of water supply, and are of such character that 640 acres are reasonably required to support a family. The classification will be made, so far as practicable, to exclude lands that are not chiefly valuable for grazing and raising forage crops, either because too valuable for such use or too poor for such use.

Among the instructions issued by the Secretary of the Interior relative to the classification of land and designation under this act was the following:

It is the intent of this act to provide a homestead of such character that 640 acres are reasonably required for and may, under ordinary conditions, be expected to support a family by stock-raising. It is inconsistent with this intent to permit the entry of lands which, because of aridity, roughness, or altitude, are worthless for grazing, or which, while of some grazing value, will produce no forage crops.

It is plain, not only from the wording of the act, but from the regulations and instructions issued thereunder, that no land was to be designated which was deemed too poor to support a family on 640 acres. The work of classification and designation, withdrawal of water-holes, and driveways, was delegated to the Geological Survey, and it was conducted as speedily as possible. Many filings were made on land which the officials of the Geological Survey regarded as too poor to come within the terms of the act or the instructions under which they were operating. Consequently such land was not designated. In many such cases appeal was made to the Secretary of the Interior. These appeals have been coming up for consideration during the past two months, and in practically every instance the secretary has decided in favor of the applicant and ordered the land filed on to be designated. As a result of these decisions on appeal, it is evident that the policy of the Department of the Interior has been materially modified, so far as it relates to land which may be considered too poor to reasonably support a family. In fact, the decisions under these appeals indicate that the department will no longer observe any restrictions in the designation of land which may be of too poor a character. The bars are down, and anyone entitled to make a filing can secure 640 acres of land, even if it will not support a jack-rabbit or a prairie-dog; the only restriction being that it possesses no dry-farming possibilities, is not susceptible of irrigation, and has no commercial timber. Most of the labor of classification and designation might as well not have been done, and the expense saved.

This liberalization of the 640-acre act will result in a much larger acreage of land being filed on. When the act was passed, and instructions were issued, it was

estimated that not to exceed 25,000,000 acres would ever go to title under it. Now that the act has been differently construed, it is not unlikely that from 60,000,000 to 70,000,000 acres at least will pass to title under it. Since the passage of the original act an amendment was made, in August, 1919, permitting applicants who had made entries and had not proved up, or who had secured less than 640 acres, to file on an additional amount within a radius of twenty miles.

The following is a statement of the land designated under the stock-raising homestead act up to March 1, 1920:

State	Acres	Applicants
Arizona	394,750	650
Arkansas	240	1
California	871,981	1,573
Colorado	4,110,139	6,743
Idaho	760,384	1,224
Kansas	88,674	177
Michigan	320	1
Montana	2,715,816	4,610
Nebraska	71,688	161
New Mexico	5,664,285	8,681
Nevada	131,019	461
North Dakota	274,364	608
Oklahoma	22,481	81
Oregon	1,773,411	2,983
South Dakota	2,153,825	3,870
Utah	289,620	455
Washington	331,294	621
Wyoming	12,404,575	12,692
Total	32,058,863	45,592

The foregoing refers to designations already made. Of this total area, approximately 22,500,000 acres have already been filed on. Recently 4,500,000 acres were designated in the Douglas, Wyo., district, and 750,000 in the Lander, Wyo., district.

After everyone is through with filing on land under the new construction of the 640-acre act, the remainder will be so badly cut up that it will be practically impossible to administer it as grazing commons under federal control. Then probably Congress will consider passing a larger grazing homestead measure which will take care of the remnant. Many stockmen believe this to be the most sensible solution of this vexed public-land question, under all the circumstances. The possibility of federal regulation of grazing on the remaining unoccupied, unappropriated public domain looks more remote than ever, and stockmen may as well adjust their business accordingly.

FIXING RATES OF RETURN OF RAILROADS

ON MARCH 15-18, 1920, the Interstate Commerce Commission held a conference in Washington for the purpose of receiving the suggestions of railroads and shippers relative to the plan of establishing rate groups or zones, and the basis to be used in determining the rate of return within the different zones. No definite announcement has yet been made by the commission, but it is generally understood that the country will be divided into three zones, conforming with the territorial division under the present classifications—

namely, one zone to be the official classification territory; another, the southern classification territory; and the third, the western classification territory. Some of the representatives of the railroads appearing before the commission argued for a larger number of zones; the southwestern lines favoring a separate zone, to include only the Southwest. It makes little difference how many, or how few, zones are established, provided the Interstate Commerce Commission will not burden one section of the country with the railroad disabilities of another section.

The question of the basis of the fair return authorized by the law was much discussed at the conference. If the physical valuation of the railroads of the country were finished, it would be a comparatively simple matter to apply the fair-return yardstick and adjust rates on that basis; but at the present time only part of the railroad mileage of the country has been valued. The valuation department of the Interstate Commerce Commission claims that by speeding up the work it can be completed by the end of 1921. Until that job is finished the commission will probably have to adopt the book value of the railroads in fixing the basis of return to the carriers.

Railroad officials are now considering what advance they will seek to secure in different sections of the country. As stated in the March issue of the THE PRODUCER, some of the important lines operating in the intermountain region earned under federal control more than the government guarantee.

Below we present a comparative statement, compiled from official data, showing the result of the operations of the important carriers in the West under federal control in 1918 and 1919:

COMPARISON OF NET OPERATING INCOME FOR YEARS 1918 AND 1919 WITH STANDARD RETURN FOR CERTAIN WESTERN RAILROADS

Road	Government Guarantee (Standard Return)	Net Operating Income* 1918	Amount by Which Net Operating Income Was	
			Greater Than Standard Return	Less Than Standard Return
Union Pacific R. R.	\$23,700,009	\$35,616,554	\$11,916,545	
A. T. & S. F. Ry.	38,443,725	41,558,303	3,114,578	
Southern Pacific Co.	37,532,010	33,970,453		\$ 3,561,557
Northern Pacific Ry.	30,057,760	28,209,373		1,848,387
C. B. & Q. R. R.	33,360,683	25,016,100		8,344,583
Great Northern Ry.	28,666,681	11,978,791		16,687,890
Denver & Rio Grande R. R.	8,319,377	5,434,321		2,885,056

Road	Government Guarantee (Standard Return)	Net Operating Income* 1919	Amount by Which Net Operating Income Was	
			Greater Than Standard Return	Less Than Standard Return
Union Pacific R. R.	\$23,700,009	\$32,778,784	\$ 9,078,775	
A. T. & S. F. Ry.	38,443,725	40,035,260	1,591,534	
Southern Pacific Co.	37,532,010	32,560,709		\$ 4,971,301
Northern Pacific Ry.	30,057,760	18,379,362		11,678,398
C. B. & Q. R. R.	33,360,683	25,156,532		8,204,151
Great Northern Ry.	28,666,681	12,450,618		16,207,063
Denver & Rio Grande R. R.	8,319,377	6,033,375		2,286,002

*Net operating income which is comparable with standard return and does not take into consideration the net balance from lease of roads.

It will be observed from the foregoing tables that two of the carriers earned more than the government guarantee both in 1918 and in 1919. The other carriers mentioned ought, with reasonable economy and the greater efficiency which may be expected under private operation, to be able to earn 6 per cent on their book value on the basis of the present rates. Indeed, it is doubtful whether the railroads operating in the inter-mountain region can successfully defend any increase in their charges; most of them cannot. When the railroads file their new schedules comprehending any advances in rates, application will be made for their suspension and a thorough hearing held as to the merits of the advances under the terms of the new law.

TEXAS CONVENTION INDORSES PACKER LEGISLATION

FEDERAL SUPERVISION OF MEAT-PACKERS was the paramount issue before the forty-fourth annual convention of the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas, held at Houston March 16-18. As at Spokane, two factions contended for control—those who favored a law vesting the government with regulatory powers, to be exercised through a special agency, and those who deemed it for the best interests of the live-stock industry to drop all agitation for further legislation and proceed under the injunction decree obtained by the Attorney-General. As at Spokane, two resolutions were submitted, and the fight in committee and on the floor was warm and long protracted. The contestants grouped themselves according to established lines of cleavage; packers' representatives were not missing; arguments adduced had familiar coloring; the final alignment took few by surprise. Following strong pleas by President W. W. Turney, Mr. E. C. Lasater, and numerous other speakers, the majority resolution was adopted on the last day by a vote of 299 to 127. It reads as follows:

"WHEREAS, We believe it has been fully shown by the reports of various investigations and hearings that a monopoly exists in the slaughter of live stock and the distribution of the products thereof, which conclusion is substantiated by our experience covering many years of raising and marketing live stock; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas urge upon the Congress of the United States that immediate legislation be enacted that will supervise the packing business by a national agency, so as to deprive the large packers of the powers that have led to the creation of this practical world monopoly of important food supplies. We demand legislation that will afford small independent packers who do establish themselves at strategic points throughout the nation for the slaughter of live stock, the ability to command from the transportation systems the same service at the same cost to the great consuming centers of the nation as is now, or may be, accorded to the large packers. We demand legislation that will encourage the formation of co-operative organizations for the handling and distribution of perishable food supplies in centers of population."

The minority resolution was couched in the following language:

"WHEREAS, There has been an agreement entered into between the United States government and the five so-called big packers, followed by perpetual injunction; and

"WHEREAS, That agreement had for its purpose, and was so stated by Attorney-General A. Mitchell Palmer, the settlement of the agitation for legislation against the packers; and

"WHEREAS, It is the opinion of the majority of the members of this association that any further agitation for legislation affecting the packers is and will prove detrimental to our industry; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Texas Cattle Raisers' Association, in convention assembled in the city of Houston, is opposed to the passage by the Congress of any legislation looking to the

government taking control or supervision, through a commission or otherwise, of the packers at this time."

Thus the largest and most influential association of cattlemen in the greatest cattle-raising state of the Union by an overwhelming vote has placed itself squarely behind the forces working for government control of the meat-packing business along the lines advocated in the bills now before Congress.

Attorney-General Palmer, who was to have addressed the meeting, was prevented from leaving Washington. In his stead, Judge John T. Atwood, of Kansas City, presented the views of the administration on the problems connected with the food supply of the nation and the new conditions created by the agreement entered into between the packers and the Department of Justice. He strongly urged the stockmen to take over the stock-yards when the packers relinquished their hold.

Other resolutions passed were to the following effect:

Urging that, in the interest of justice, the investigation of the personnel of the Federal Trade Commission be transferred from Chicago to Washington;

Recommending an increased appropriation by Congress for the eradication of insect parasites preying on live stock;

Asking for an appropriation of at least \$400,000 for federal co-operation with state governments in the destruction of predatory wild animals and injurious rodents;

Indorsing the return of the railroads to private ownership, and urging shippers to co-operate with railroad officials in solving the difficulties with which they are now confronted;

Protesting against the cut by Congress of the appropriation for promoting live-stock shows;

Asking for the elimination from the National Bank Act of the provision requiring the insurance of live stock before it becomes available as security for a loan, and of the provision limiting the period of a loan to six months;

Indorsing the Texas Packing Company—Houston's proposed new independent packing plant—toward the stock of which individual members pledged subscriptions aggregating over \$20,000.

The convention was the most largely attended, as well as the most spirited, in the history of the association. Over 4,000 cattlemen from Texas and adjoining states were visitors to Houston during the three-day session. Several hundred new names were added to the rolls of the organization, bringing the total membership up to nearly 5,000.

Owing to the rapidly growing list of members from that state, it was decided to establish a branch office at Oklahoma City, Okla., with an assistant secretary in charge.

All the officers of the association were re-elected by acclamation.

San Antonio was selected as the meeting-place for the convention in 1921.

THE ROSWELL MEETING

THE ANNUAL CONVENTION of the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, which was held this year at Roswell, March 29-31, was the most successful in the history of that organization. The attendance strained to the limit the hotel accommodations of the city, and the spacious District Court room, where the convention held its meetings, was daily crowded to capacity. More than forty new members were added to the membership roll of the association.

The program was one of varied interest. Unfortunately, the address on "The Packer Decree," by J. T. Atwood, Special Assistant Attorney-General, which had been looked forward to as one of the principal features, was canceled during the eleventh hour, Mr. Atwood being detained in Washington by pressure of departmental business. H. A. Jastro, a member of the association since its foundation, addressed the convention, and took the opportunity of entering a categorical denial of certain press reports, which were widely circulated after the Spokane meeting, to the effect that he was opposed to legislation regulative of the packing industry.

The following resolution was passed unanimously:

"WHEREAS, It is necessary that confidence be established in the operation of marketing agencies, that competition may be developed and that improved relations may be established between producer, packer, and consumer; and

"WHEREAS, A bill designed for the furtherance of these ends—the substitute Kendrick and Kenyon bill, entitled S. 3944 (a bill to create a Federal Live-Stock Commission)—has been favorably reported to the United States Senate by its Committee on Agriculture and Forestry; and

"WHEREAS, The Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives is now engaged in consideration of similar legislation; therefore be it

"Resolved, By the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association, in convention assembled at Roswell, N. M., this 31st day of March, 1920, that we approve the said bill, S. 3944, and urge this committee of the House of Representatives to report the same favorably, without modification in principle; and be it further

"Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be wired to Chairman G. N. Haugen, of that committee."

Other resolutions adopted were to the following effect:

Vigorously protesting against any increase in grazing fees on national forests, or any action tending to invalidate grazing permits now in force;

Opposing transfer of administration of national forests from Department of Agriculture to any other department;

Petitioning Congress to increase salaries of employees of Forest Service;

Expressing regret at resignation of Henry S. Graves and Albert F. Potter from Forest Service;

Urging legislation restricting use by aliens of federal and state lands;

Favoring federal control for grazing purposes of unappropriated public domain, without prejudice to the position heretofore taken by this association favoring state control as the solution of this problem;

Requesting state authorities to enforce rules against infectious animal diseases;

Asking Interstate Commerce Commission to reconsider decision placing burden of loading and unloading live stock on shipper;

Demanding restoration of reasonable and practical rules for presenting damage claims on live stock;

Recommending pure-bred bull law;

Indorsing federal legislation for establishment of game sanctuaries on national forests;

Urging Department of Agriculture and state legislature to make adequate provision for extermination of range-destroying rodents and predatory animals in New Mexico.

Victor Culberson, whose tenure of office for the last two years has been so markedly successful, retires from the presidency, and T. E. Mitchell, of Albert, Union County, was elected to that office. J. H. McCamant, of Gallup; J. A. Lusk, of Carlsbad; Hugh L. Hodge, of Silver City, and C. M. O'Donel, of Bell Ranch, were elected vice-presidents, the first three to succeed themselves.

NOTES ON CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

BY W. S. EVERTS
Field Representative

THE FEBRUARY BREAK in the drought has saved northern California cattle, at least temporarily. County secretaries, reporting the conditions of the ranges, state that if the spring rainfall is normal there will be no necessity of shipping any cattle out of California. From all over the state, however, there have come letters commending the action of the California Cattlemen's Association in preparing for the emergency that threatened. The association's policy of getting ready in ample time resulted in arrangements that would have permitted cattlemen to ship their stock to pastures outside the state the moment the need became apparent. This is the first time in the history of the cattlemen of California that such machinery has been at the disposal of the stock-raisers. In other years of great drought they have had to rely on their individual efforts, and many

delayed until the cattle were so weak that they could not be loaded on trains.

A movement to enlist the support of the United States government in a campaign for the extermination of coyotes was launched last month at a meeting of cattlemen in St. Helena, Napa County. A resolution was adopted urging that the Department of Agriculture secure an appropriation from which to offer a bounty which would be in addition to that offered within the state.

Successful meetings of cattlemen have been held within the last few weeks at Mariposa, Oakhurst, Hat Creek, Merced, Nevada City, and Santa Ynez. Everywhere the cattlemen are showing enthusiasm for the work of the association, and its membership is increasing at a satisfactory rate.

Fred H. Bixby, president of the California Cattlemen's Association, has issued the following statement defining the association's attitude toward cattle-loan companies:

"While I am president of the association it will never ally itself in any way with any one cattle-loan company. We want as many cattle-loan companies, and as many banks lending money to cattlemen, as we can possibly get. Competition means a reasonable rate of interest for stock-raisers. The California Cattlemen's Association is keeping its ship in the middle of the stream, as far as cattle-loan companies are concerned."

The California Cattlemen's Association has joined hands with Attorney-General Palmer in conducting the campaign for popularizing the cheaper cuts of meat. The Attorney-General adopted the slogan "Save Money on Meat," but the association is endeavoring wherever possible to substitute the slogan "Buy Meat Intelligently," since it is feared that the other form might lead to the belief that the government is urging a reduction in the consumption of meat. This confusion has already arisen in the few instances where newspapers have published stories regarding the campaign. A conference was held in San Francisco between H. Clay Miller, chairman of the Federal Fair Trade Board for California, and David J. Stollery, secretary of the California Cattlemen's Association. Following this conference a telegram was sent to Washington urging the postponement of the state campaign from the week beginning March 29, as originally planned, to the week beginning April 12. This request has been granted. The movement will be state-wide, and will be carried on through the press, by lectures, public demonstrations of meat-cutting, window displays in butcher shops, and moving pictures.

NOTES ON COLORADO STOCKGROWERS' ASSOCIATION

THE THIRD MONTHLY MEETING of the Board of Control of the Colorado Stockgrowers' Association was held in Denver on March 19. A resolution was passed pledging the co-operation of the association to the Department of Justice in its campaign to stimulate the consumption of the cheaper cuts of beef, and urging the public to respond whole-heartedly to the government's appeal during the period of April 12-19, set apart as Colorado's week of forequarter cuisine.

Another resolution concurred in the petition of the State Board of Stock Inspection Commissioners to the governor for the appointment of a committee of hold-over senators to study the present laws of Colorado affecting the production and transportation of live stock and farm produce, and to submit plans for new legislation.

The secretary was instructed to address letters to local organizations and individual members, requesting their views on the public-domain problem, in order to ascertain whether or not the majority indorsed the resolution on that question passed at the recent convention of the American National Live Stock Association at Spokane.

THE PRODUCER was adopted as the official organ of the association.

The Twin Mountain Live Stock Association, of Del Norte, and the Douglas County Live Stock Association, of Sedalia, have joined the state organization.

ARIZONA CATTLE-GROWERS INDORSE "THE PRODUCER"

IN OUR MARCH NUMBER mention was made of the fact that at its last annual convention the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association had adopted a resolution indorsing THE PRODUCER. Following is the text of the resolution in question:

"WHEREAS, We believe that a publication covering the many large questions, facts, and data arising from time to time affecting the interests of the live-stock producers is of great help to the members of this association; and

"WHEREAS, THE PRODUCER, founded for that purpose, has been of considerable benefit to the live-stock men; therefore be it

"Resolved, By the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association, in convention assembled at Tucson, Ariz., on February 17, 18, and 19, 1920, that we urge our members to give it their hearty support."

CATTLEMEN OF NORTHWEST IN REBELLIOUS MOOD

A READER sends us a clipping from the *Record of Nampa, Idaho*, containing a dispatch from Portland, Ore., dated March 23, in which the situation confronting the cattle industry of the Northwest is painted in somber colors. We quote:

"Cattlemen have started a near revolution that has a most serious aspect. . . . Meetings are being held by cattlemen in leading producing centers of Oregon, and it is understood that similar meetings will be called in Idaho.

"Cattlemen complain bitterly regarding the price they are receiving for their product, and say that the public is not being benefited by any material reduction in the price of meats at retail. The facts are that many hundreds of thousands of dollars have been lost by leading cattlemen in the Pacific Northwest this season. Several leading feeders alone have lost from \$20,000 to \$25,000 each during that period.

"A public investigation of the situation is being demanded by the cattlemen. . . . They claim that the packers have absolute control of the situation and are encouraging the sale of the cheaper cattle—which is but fractionally below what they are offering for the best—while showing little disposition to purchase the finer quality.

"The prospect is that the already short supplies of cattle held in the Pacific Northwest will be decreased to a point where the public will be compelled to pay far more money than ever before for meat within a year or two, if present slaughter of cattle continues."

PER-CAPITA WHEAT CONSUMPTION

PER-CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF WHEAT in different countries has been estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture, with results as given in the accompanying table. The estimates are based on the average production for ten years, exports or imports of wheat, including wheat flour reduced to wheat equivalent, and an allowance made for quantities used for seed:

	Bushels		Bushels
Canada	9.5	Netherlands	4.2
Belgium	8.3	Roumania	4.0
France	7.9	Denmark	3.5
Spain	6.1	Chile	3.4
United Kingdom	6.0	Germany	3.2
Switzerland	6.0	Russia	2.7
Australia	5.5	Serbia	2.5
Italy	5.4	Sweden	2.5
United States	5.3	Egypt	2.5
Uruguay	5.3	Portugal	1.8
Argentina	5.2	British India .....	.8
Bulgaria	5.0	Mexico .....	.8
Austria-Hungary	4.3	Japan .....	.5

THE CHICAGO LIVE-STOCK CONFERENCE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

SOMETHING DOING in that live-stock bunch!" said the traffic manager of one of the big western lines to his executive, handing the latter a conference call issued by the National Live Stock Exchange. The president perused the document. "Better be there in person; take the whole force if necessary, and pacify these guys if possible," he directed.

When the conference was called at the Saddle and Sirloin Club in Chicago the last week of March, the assembled throng of railroad officials recalled Bill Nye's minstrel-show audience which was outnumbered three to one by the performers. The talent of the carriers, east and west of Chicago, was on the job, putting producers and commission men in a hopeless minority. Likewise the packers were adequately represented both by the officers of the several concerns and by the Institute of American Meat Packers; that interest, like the railroads, having decided that nothing was to be "put over" on them. The conference call had specified a long list of ills to which live-stock trade has fallen heir during the past quarter of a century—chiefly bad service; and, while the representatives of each road were ready to protect its reputation as the only friend of the stockmen, an obvious spirit of comity existed. Nevertheless, the railroad men adopted a conciliatory attitude from the outset, assuming a we'll-do-anything-reasonable-under-the-sun position; for, be it understood, they are on the eve of a campaign for a substantial increase in freight rates, making hostility in the live-stock camp undesirable.

A lengthy bill of particulars—an indictment, in fact—was presented by Everett C. Brown, president of the National Live Stock Exchange. It arraigned the carriers for many sins of omission and commission—especially the former—including delays in transit, bad loading facilities at interior points, unintelligent handling of live stock in transit, poor equipment, lack of cars, and other handicaps with which everyone having occasion to place live stock on the rails is familiar. Occasionally a railroad representative broke away from the herd, demanding specific instances of dereliction in the case of the corporation he represented. "We'll give you a thousand of them when the time arrives," was Brown's invariable retort. But the big railroad men present, the traffic managers and higher-ups, generally were not in disputative mood, their obvious purpose being to reach an adjournment, *sine die* preferred, without stirring anything up. In this they were partly successful; but the producers' side of the house ignored the *sine die* desire, planning to give the movement permanent character, with frequent conferences.

Producers were represented by J. H. Mercer, of the Kansas Live Stock Association; A. Sykes, of the Corn Belt Association; J. R. Howard, of the American Farm Bureau Federation, and E. J. Trosper, of the National Federation of Co-operative Live Stock Shippers. None of them minced matters with the railroad people, the stock-yard representatives, or the commission interest, announcing that the organizations they represented were prepared to exhaust every resource to secure good service, both on the rails and at the stock-yards. Mercer stated that the producers would not object to reasonable compensation, but would insist on service, which they were not getting under present conditions. The railroad men pleaded extenuating circumstances, laying responsibility for bad service at the door of incompetent labor and hunger for overtime. Incidentally they accused live-stock shippers of aggravating demoralization by "tipping" station agents and trainmen. They did not neglect the opportunity to "put something over," however, by urging on shippers the advisability of abolishing the caretaker system, offering in lieu of free transportation to assume responsibility for care of live stock in transit; but the tender was promptly and unanimously rejected by every producers' representative present.

A long string of resolutions went through, practically without opposition, in the final stages of the conference. Printed verbatim, they would fill several pages of THE PRODUCER. An epitome follows:

Country loading-stations to be repaired, and maintained in good order, with adequate watering and weighing facilities.

Live-stock equipment to be maintained in good order, and adequate rolling-stock to be provided.

Adopting sand as the most desirable bedding.

Requiring commission houses to keep a record of arrivals of live stock at outer railroad yards and stock-yard terminals, with a view to eliminating delay between these points.

Establishing the following carload minimums: cattle, 22,000 pounds; hogs, 22,000 pounds double-deck, 15,000 pounds single-deck; stock hogs, 20,000 pounds double-deck; calves, 22,000 pounds double-deck, 14,000 pounds single-deck; sheep, 18,000 pounds double-deck, 12,000 pounds single-deck; stock cattle, 20,000 pounds. The carriers attempted to insert a proviso that these minimums were not to interfere with rates, but were voted down.

Requesting Congress to amend the twenty-eight-hour law by extending it to thirty-six hours, with the privilege of forty-two hours on written request of the shipper.

Requiring railroads to assume responsibility for drenching or sprinkling hogs in transit.

Co-operative live-stock shippers lodged a complaint against certain railroads which have been selling scales at loading-stations to professional shippers, resulting in exclusion of co-operative stock from weighing facilities. They alleged discrimination, threatening to seek redress from state legislatures. The railroad men were unanimous in asserting that furnishing scales was not the proper function of railroads, some of them announcing an intention to discontinue such service.

The Packers' Institute launched a campaign to eliminate ill usage of live stock in transit and at the stock-yards. It is a take-the-prod-out-of-the-prodpole movement, and is to be prosecuted vigorously on the moral-suasion principle. Packers presented figures showing that the annual loss due to the use of clubs, prodpoles, and other instruments of torture, in bruised meats alone, runs into an enormous sum annually.

In the final stage of the conference a control committee was appointed to carry on the work. W. T. Treleaven, of the Santa Fe, will represent railroads; J. H. Mercer, of Kansas, live-stock shippers; E. J. Trosper, of Chicago, co-operative shippers; W. H. Weeks, of Kansas City, the stock-yard companies; J. A. McNaughton, of the Institute of American Meat Packers, the packers; Everett C. Brown, the commission interest; Charles E. Day, stock-yard traders; and J. R. Howard, the farm bureaus.

The conference was anything but unique, scores of similar movements having been launched during the past twenty-five years, with net results to producers and shippers equivalent to what would have been secured by expectorating on a hot stove.

FOOT-AND-MOUTH-DISEASE CONGRESS

AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS on foot-and-mouth disease will be held at Buenos Aires on September 6, 1920, during the international exhibition of live stock to be held there, says the *London Meat Trades' Journal*. The president of the Argentine National Dairy Association has asked Lord Bledisloe, president of the British Dairy Farmers' Association, to make this meeting known, so that Great Britain may be well represented, and the British government will be asked to send delegates representing the scientific, bacteriological, and veterinary institutions of the country.

Perhaps steps have already been taken to secure similar representation from the United States. If not, might it not be well for the proper agencies promptly to get in touch with the Argentine promoters of this plan? Although America has happily been free from foot-and-mouth disease for several years, any action tending to combat the ravages of this plague and minimize the danger of its reintroduction deserves the hearty co-operation of our government and live-stock organizations.

WASHINGTON LETTER

BY DUNNE MANWAY

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 2, 1920.

LEGISLATION for the regulation of the meat-packing industry in the public interest, it may be safely asserted, is appreciably nearer of accomplishment today than at any time since the American National Live Stock Association first advocated an investigation of the problem. The hearings which have been in progress before the House Committee on Agriculture have served to emphasize the widespread demand for action, and, although the packers have again unlimbered their heavy artillery in opposition to the measures under consideration, it has been obvious that they have not been so effective as the opponents of federal regulation would desire. Attention, of course, has been concentrated on the House side; but, with the elimination of the Peace Treaty as a consumer of time on the Senate side, the boards have been cleared for formal action on the measure reported more than a month ago by Chairman Gronna, of the Senate committee. With the supply bills on which the Senate committees have acted out of the way, the packer bill will be called up, and close observers would not be surprised to find it under consideration before the end of April.

It is unquestionably true that the political situation is very favorable from the point of view of those who desire to see some sort of a bill enacted. Opposition to legislation which offers any hope of reducing the cost of living would not be popular under any circumstances at this time, but, with the presidential election coming on apace, it is almost certain that no concerted movement can be launched, either in or out of Congress, against a well-considered measure that proposes to place the packers under federal oversight. Neither the Democratic nor the Republican party could be induced to criticize the pending bills, but might easily be induced to urge action, if, indeed, Congress has not actually sent a bill to the President before the conventions meet.

To the organizations pressing for legislation was added last week the American Federation of Labor, which, through one of its representatives, presented to the committee for consideration a draft of a new bill. This measure proposes the creation of a National Food Commission of five members, instead of a Live-Stock Commission of three, as in the Gronna bill, and, as might be expected, gives it considerably broader powers. The measure also revives the licensing system and requires all persons or corporations operating packing-houses or market agencies in interstate commerce dealing with live stock to obtain a license from the Food Commission. The commission is empowered to conduct investigations, and its decisions, it is provided, are to stand until actually overruled by the federal Circuit Court of Appeals. The court, however, is expressly forbidden to overrule any decision of the commission unless it is shown that the decision was not supported by evidence.

Briefly outlined, this is one of the more drastic proposals which the House committee will have before it when it goes into executive session to draw up its report to the House. It has also been understood that the tendency of some members, at least, is to write a bill providing broader and sharper powers of regulation than those created by the Senate bill. The call, in some quarters, has been for a "bill with teeth in it," thus implying that the Senate proposal is too mild. The packers, who have been criticising the Senate bill as too radical, as destructive of the live-stock business, and as ruinous to producer and packer alike, will be at a loss for language with which to describe the recommendations of the House committee, if some of the predictions which have been heard in the corridors of the Capitol are well founded.

The metropolitan press of the East has not paid much attention to the progress of the hearings, and, although the committee-rooms have been generally crowded, little has been said in the

newspapers of developments. The appearance of a presidential candidate before the committee today, in the person of Attorney-General A. Mitchell Palmer, to explain, and defend, his decree of dissolution against the Big Five and some of their subsidiaries, served to bring out some of the correspondents. The cares and worries of the primary campaign did not seem to bother him, however, and, though all the cross-questioning to which he was subjected was obviously tinged with hostility, Palmer quitted the stand without having been even in difficulty. It was rather clearly demonstrated that the decree which he secured was about the most that could be gained under the law as it stands today, and, rather smilingly, the Attorney-General declared that he was very glad the decree was signed before the Supreme Court decision in the steel-trust case was announced. It would probably have been too much to expect that the packers would have yielded their consent to the signing of the decree, had they been able to foresee the outcome of the steel case, he intimated.

Criticism of the decree, for the most part, took the form of expressions of doubt as to whether or not it may be enforced. The fact that it is based on a stipulation which specifically recites that there was no finding of fact, and that nothing in the decree is to be taken as a confession on the part of the defendants that they have violated any law of the United States, was urged as proving that the judgment cannot stand. It was also argued that the injunction prohibits the packers from performing acts which are admittedly lawful, and that, therefore, they may not be punished if at any future time they should undertake to violate the decree by doing the lawful acts which the decree enjoins. To this Palmer replied by quoting from a decision of the Supreme Court to the effect that a consent decree cannot be overthrown. The Attorney-General laid emphasis on the fact that, under the decree, the court retains jurisdiction of the case, so that it may grant any further relief that may be required at any future time. He made it clear, however, that any relief that could be secured must be against acts which are prohibited by law, and in this connection asserted that he was not interested in what the packers may have said in their answers about not having violated any laws, because the government, in its petition to the court, had alleged that the acts complained of were unlawful, and the court, by granting the decree, had clearly confirmed that view.

That the injunction does not provide the supervision of the stock markets which the proponents of the legislation deem to be necessary if the industry is to be benefited, there seemed to be no doubt. It was, of course, explained by the Attorney-General that the Department of Justice intended to continue to devote its attention to the industry, and that it would examine the plan which the packers are to submit for divesting themselves of the stock-yards, etc.; but this work will be essentially law work.

The testimony brought forth on behalf of the packers was designed to show that there is no monopoly; that the Big Five are in competition with one another; that there are many small packers who resent attacks on the big fellows, and who, for their own part as well, are opposed to legislation. To these were added a few producers who expressed fear that legislation would ruin the market. Confronted with innumerable resolutions from farm and stock organizations emphatically indorsing legislation, these witnesses asserted, either that the resolutions did not accurately reflect the wishes of the people who adopted them, or that they were secured by political manipulation. This became so amusing that at one stage of the proceedings, when a big producer from Texas, who said he was unwilling to tell the committee how large his ranch was or how many cattle he had, was depreciating the action of the Cattle Raisers' Association of Texas in favor of the legislation, Congressman Anderson, of Minnesota, declared: "It seems to me that we have spent a good part of the time before this committee trying to prove that resolutions which were actually passed were really defeated, and

that resolutions which were defeated were meant to have been passed." Fear that legislation would reduce the market was the basis of the adverse testimony of the few producers who appeared in behalf of the packers, and it seemed to be a just inference from what they had to say that, if legislation would have the effect of increasing the market, they would be for it. This, of course, has been the contention of proponents of the legislation, like Senator Kendrick, who from the beginning has maintained that the enactment of legislation placing the markets under public supervision will be followed by an expansion of the market, so that the producer will have a greater outlet for his stock and the consumer a greater supply for his table.

The packer testimony will close in the next few days with the appearance before the committee of the attorneys for the Big Five, who will enter into an analysis of the legal phases of the proposed legislation. In this connection, it has been interesting to note that the criticism of the Institute of American Meat Packers against the Senate bill has been based almost completely on the provision for voluntary registration with the Live-Stock Commission of persons or corporations engaged in the business. This section, of course, was inserted solely at the request of those who believe that the movement toward municipal markets should be encouraged, and it is designed for the purpose of providing some sort of federal support for that movement. Live-stock men have universally agreed that the section would be practically inoperative, and that it would not affect the vital situation in any appreciable degree. Clauses of this section which provide the qualifications of those who may be registered have been seized upon by the packer representatives as proving that the commission will have practically unlimited power, and statements to this effect have been so ill-considered that one statement circulated by the packers through official Washington and to the newspapers of the country went to the absurd length of stating that the commission would be authorized to issue "unlawful regulations."

* * *

Taking advantage of a day's suspension of the packer hearings, T. W. Tomlinson, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, appeared at a fully attended meeting of the House Committee on Agriculture to combat the notion, expressed rather vigorously by the committee when the agricultural bill was under consideration, that grazing fees on the national forests should be increased.

Tomlinson urged that, before recommending any such action in the future, the committee should appoint a subcommittee to visit the national forests and inspect grazing conditions as they actually exist. He predicted that such a committee would return convinced that the advantages of the stockman who uses the forests have been vastly exaggerated. Pointing out some of the many difficulties with which the forest grazer has to contend, Tomlinson told the committee that the grazing fees should not be disturbed before the expiration of the five-year period initiated about a year ago.

When the effort of the House committee to compel an immediate increase of fees was defeated, first on the floor of the House and later by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, where, on motion of Senator Kendrick, of Wyoming, all mention of the grazing-fee problem was stricken from the bill, it was reported that some of the House members who had been most active in urging an advance would attempt to gain their end by a special bill. Tomlinson's statement is believed to have prevented that possibility.

* * *

When the Senate passed the annual agricultural bill on March 26, it had made exactly 282 amendments to the measure as passed by the House more than a month previously, and had added to the figures of the lower body approximately \$2,500,000 for a total appropriation of \$32,740,761. But this was more than

\$1,200,000 less than the Department of Agriculture was given a year ago. Next to the Indian appropriation bill, the agricultural bill is the smallest of the annual supply measures that come before Congress; but, in spite of the fact that it deals with subjects probably affecting directly the interests of a larger proportion of the people than any other measure that comes regularly before Congress, it has always been the most difficult one to increase. The agricultural bill contains innumerable items dealing with most vital problems of the farmer and stockman, and providing for the improvement of food-production methods; but, strangely enough, the aim of Congress generally seems to be to economize whenever this bill is up.

The present year is no exception to the general rule, and when the House appointed its conference committee to deal with the representatives of the Senate on the increases written into the measure by the Senate, Floor Leader Mondell, of the majority, expressed the hope that the House conferees would adhere to the economy program announced by the House leaders, and reject the Senate increases. What the result will be remains to be seen.

Even with the increases authorized by the Senate, all the principal items are below the figures of the 1919 bill. The new head of the department, Secretary Meredith, will have a little more assistance than usual, however, if the Senate has its way; for it has provided an additional \$5,000 to pay the salary of an extra assistant secretary. In the Bureau of Animal Industry the appropriation for quarantine work has been reduced from the \$525,000 allowed last year to \$519,640. The allowance for the eradication of tuberculosis was increased by the Senate by \$180,000 over that granted by the House, but the Senate total, \$1,480,440, is approximately \$20,000 less than that of last year. The Senate increased the item for dairy investigations by \$50,000 over the \$300,000 allowance of the House, and gave almost \$40,000 more for experiments in animal husbandry, retaining an item of \$20,000 for breeding horses for military purposes, in spite of strong opposition.

The House cut the appropriation for the eradication of hog cholera from \$641,045 to \$410,000, but the Senate restored last year's figure, and the conference committee will now have the pleasant task of fighting it out. The Senate also restored last year's appropriation of \$73,380 for crop investigations in reclamation projects, although the House had dropped it to \$52,380.

The item for the extermination of predatory animals always seems to arouse opposition, and the cut made by the House was one of those which the Senate allowed to stand. The appropriation for this purpose in the pending bill is \$456,040, as compared with \$464,440 in last year's measure.

One of the big disappointments to the department was the manner in which Congress handled the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The secretary asked for \$967,000 for this work. The House gave him \$317,376, and the Senate increased this to \$322,816; so that the new work which was planned will not be undertaken this year. The Bureau of Markets also suffered a substantial cut from \$2,800,000 last year to \$1,042,000 in the House bill and \$1,130,000 in the Senate draft.

A Senate amendment that may be fruitful of interesting and important results is that which provides for the creation of a special joint committee of the two houses to study short-time rural credits. The amendment reads as follows:

"There is hereby constituted a joint committee of the Senate and House of Representatives, to consist of the chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, the chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, and the chairmen of the Committees on Banking and Currency of the two houses, and two other members of each of said committees, to be designated by the chairmen of the respective committees, and it shall be the duty of said joint committee to investigate and report at as early a date as may be possible as to the practicability of establishing a system of short-time rural credits in the United States, and to recommend such legislation as may be deemed practicable

and desirable to that end. The said committee is hereby authorized to hold meetings either during or between sessions. The sum of \$15,000 is hereby appropriated, the same to be immediately available, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray all necessary expenses of said joint committee, payment of said expenses to be made upon vouchers approved by the chairman of said joint committee, who shall be selected by the committee."

Another Senate amendment provides an appropriation of \$60,000 to establish through the War Department an aerial patrol of the national forests to guard against forest fires.

RELATIVE FREEDOM FROM TUBERCULOSIS

INTERESTING, if nothing more, is a report emanating from the Tuberculosis-Eradication Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry, showing by breeds the total number of pure-bred herds and head of cattle tested, and the numbers and percentages of reactors found, between the time of the inauguration of the federal and state co-operative accredited-herd plan, two years ago, and December 15, 1919. The tabulated data, borrowed from a complacent article in the *American Hereford Journal*, present the following aspect, which we offer for just what it is worth:

	Herds	Head	Reactors	Per Cent Reactors
Aberdeen-Angus.....	382	9,669	552	5.79
Ayrshire.....	218	7,760	477	6.14
Brown Swiss.....	60	1,381	120	8.69
Devon.....	12	114	4	3.50
Dexter.....	1	14	0	0.00
Dutch Belted.....	9	206	9	4.36
Galloway.....	12	296	1	.33
Guernsey.....	1,318	25,914	974	3.72
Hereford.....	982	30,670	240	.77
Holstein-Friesian.....	4,272	83,928	5,501	6.55
Jersey.....	4,361	48,614	1,297	2.71
Polled Shorthorn.....	24	739	42	6.74
Red Polled.....	271	4,888	169	3.45
Shorthorn.....	2,882	51,184	2,946	5.75

TUBERCULOSIS IN CATTLE AND SWINE

WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED toward the eradication of tuberculosis in cattle and hogs in this country, and to what extent this stubborn disease still prevails among our two most important meat animals, is forcibly demonstrated by the following figures, which we quote from a report published by the Chicago Live Stock Exchange, showing the percentages of cattle and hogs retained for tuberculosis at all slaughtering points in the United States where federal meat inspection is maintained, during each of the twelve fiscal years 1908-1919:

Fiscal Year	Cattle		Swine	
	Total No. Slaughtered	Per Cent Ret. for T. B.	Total No. Slaughtered	Per Cent Ret. for T. B.
1908...	7,116,275	.96	35,113,077	2.05
1909...	7,325,337	1.37	35,427,931	2.45
1910...	7,962,189	1.55	27,656,021	2.86
1911...	7,781,030	1.71	29,916,363	3.74
1912...	7,532,005	2.12	34,966,378	4.69
1913...	7,155,816	2.13	32,287,538	5.65
1914...	6,724,117	2.14	33,289,705	6.61
1915...	6,964,402	2.27	36,247,958	7.65
1916...	7,404,288	2.58	40,382,799	9.11
1917...	9,299,489	2.35	40,210,847	9.87
1918...	10,938,287	2.03	35,449,247	9.86
1919...	11,241,991	1.82	44,398,389	9.24

From this table it will be observed that tuberculosis in cattle had been steadily increasing until 1916, during which year 2.58 per cent of all cattle killed in the United States under federal inspection showed tubercular lesions on post-mortem examination. Since that year the percentage has been declining;

during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919, it fell to 1.82, and for the first half of the current fiscal year it further sank to 1.57.

Tuberculosis in hogs increased from 2.05 per cent in 1908 to 9.87 per cent in 1917, since which date there has been a slight reduction. The greater number of hogs retained for tuberculosis show the lesions confined to the glands of the throat, and under such circumstances only the head is condemned as inedible.

A total of 3,000 full carloads of cattle and hogs were wholly condemned as inedible in the United States during the year 1919.

PORK OUR FAVORITE MEAT

WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY MADE MENTION of the changing tastes of our people in the matter of diet, or the influence of financial considerations on the make-up of the family menu. The following data, quoted from a table prepared by the Bureau of Animal Industry, show the annual per-capita consumption, in pounds, of the various kinds of meat in the United States for the last three years:

	1917	1918	1919
Beef.....	61.23	66.74	58.95
Veal.....	6.39	6.90	7.96
Mutton and lamb.....	4.59	4.95	5.90
Goat meat.....	.18	.14	.09
Pork (except lard).....	57.59	71.35	69.08
Total meat.....	129.98	150.08	141.98
Lard.....	11.51	14.57	12.48
Total meat and lard.....	141.49	164.65	154.46

That other than economic factors are at work in bringing about the changes indicated by these figures seems evident from a comparison of the relative amounts of beef and pork eaten. The amazing jump in pork consumption since 1917, while beef consumption has remained practically stationary, cannot be accounted for by price alone—the cost of the two classes of meat advanced pretty steadily hand in hand. Rather we should say that the two causes are intermixed. General prosperity tends to accentuate the gastronomic preferences of the people. High wages enable the workingman to indulge his natural tastes. When flush he buys pork—his favorite meat.

HORSE MEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

FEDERAL INSPECTION OF HORSES slaughtered for meat, which began in September, 1919, up to the end of last year had passed on the carcasses of 433 animals. About one-half of the product of these was certified for export. Previous to that time there had been no federal supervision of horse-butcherings in this country since 1903.

Besides the plants coming under the federal regulations as being engaged in interstate or export trade, there are a number of establishments throughout the country dealing in horse meat for purely local consumption, the output of which aggregates over 2,000 carcasses a year. Most of this meat goes to zoological gardens, menageries, etc. The demand for horse flesh as a constituent of the human diet, though slowly growing, is as yet of negligible proportions in the United States, and is chiefly confined to quarters of our larger cities where immigrants from certain European countries have settled in numbers.

This condition reflects the relative cheapness of other classes of meat, but still more, we fancy, the innate prejudice of the average person against putting into his mouth any article of food not sanctioned by time-hallowed habit. In no other realm of human desires does precedent weigh quite so heavily as in matters of diet. Palatability, digestibility, nutritive value, appetizing appearance—these count for little compared with King Custom. It has been suggested—and we agree—that the venturesome pioneer who was the first to tackle an oyster must

have possessed considerable nerve; but, once accepted into respectable society by the culinary powers that be, the slimy little bivalve quickly became a delicacy. We smack our lips over the juicy slices from the belly of the miry, wallowing, toad-eating hog, and are attacked with nausea at the mere mention of a steak from the loin of a clean, clover-fed filly.

FEDERAL COLD-STORAGE BILL

ON FEBRUARY 5 Senator Gronna, of North Dakota, introduced a bill in Congress (S. 3868) for the regulation of the cold-storage business. The bill is aimed at the preservation of perishable food products moving in interstate commerce, such as meat, fish, poultry, game, eggs, butter and its substitutes, fresh fruit, and vegetables. It provides that all such food shall be marked with dates of entry and exit, name of warehouse, and have the words "cold storage" stamped on each package or on the product itself. It places a limit of twelve months on the storage of these articles, and authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to secure reports from all warehouses as to the amounts, kinds of foodstuffs stored, storage rates charged, loans made, and other data. It also provides for an appropriation of \$200,000 to carry out the purposes of the act.

The bill is a substitute for the Hutchinson bill which passed the House last summer. The new legislation was introduced largely because of reference to the desirability of such action by President Wilson in his last annual message and his special message on the high cost of living.

A resolution favoring the Gronna bill, with certain amendments, was unanimously passed at the recent meeting of the New York State Cold Storage Association.

BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS TAKES HEAVY TOLL

TUBERCULOSIS WAS RESPONSIBLE for the condemnation of more cattle slaughtered under federal meat inspection last year than all other diseases combined. Information given out by the Bureau of Animal Industry shows that 59,547 carcasses of cattle were condemned on post-mortem inspection, and that of that number 37,600 condemnations were the result of tuberculosis. In addition, 53,652 parts of cattle carcasses were condemned for the same cause.

Tuberculosis in cattle and hog cholera in swine, the bureau points out, are the two most serious contagious diseases affecting meat animals. There is evidence that a heavy loss occurs on farms in addition to condemnations at establishments where government inspection is maintained. The Department of Agriculture is prepared to give information on the best methods of reducing the losses.

THE CALENDAR

- April 20-21 — Annual Convention of Montana Stock Growers' Association, Billings, Mont.
- May 24-25 — Annual Convention of Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association of Oregon, Burns, Ore.
- October 2-10 — Los Angeles Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.
- October 16-24 — California International Live Stock Show, San Francisco, Cal.
- November 1-5 — Western Royal Live Stock Show, Spokane, Wash.
- November 7-12 — Northwest Live Stock Show, Lewiston, Idaho.
- November 13-20 — Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, North Portland, Ore.

That United States aviator who went seven miles up into the air and then came down again should make an excellent recruit for one of the new political parties.—*Manitoba Free Press*.

If prohibition has emptied the jails, fill 'em with profiteers.—*Detroit Journal*.

THE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTERESTS OF THE

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BY THE

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GENERAL BUSINESS OUTLOOK

ATENDENCY to restrict purchases to immediate needs continues to be manifest in the business world, though the expectation of a general lowering of the price-level on staple goods so far has received but little tangible support. Factories are everywhere running to full capacity, demand in most cases maintaining its lead over output. Labor shortage and strike troubles are chronic factors affecting the industrial situation, scarcity of raw materials in certain lines being another element. The lack of railroad cars has been relieved to some extent.

Iron and steel production is steadily increasing, the mills being unable to catch up with orders. An advance in coal prices is predicted, to meet the new wage increase granted the miners. The wool market shows a firmer tone. Hides are stronger. Building activities, responding to the acute demand for housing accommodations, are brisk, but hampered by the high cost of labor and material. Crop conditions are reported generally favorable. Winter wheat may fall somewhat short of the ten-year average. The acreage sown to oats, on the other hand, promises to be the largest on record.

The money market is quiet, but steady. Foreign exchange has recovered appreciably, continued gold shipments and increased exports from England buoying up the pound sterling, which is now quoted around \$4, against the low level of \$3.18 reached early in February. Our trade balance for the month of February shows exports valued at \$646,000,000 and imports at \$468,000,000—a reduction in each case from the January figures. Food exports continue to decrease.

Bradstreet's index number for the week ending April 3, based on the prices per pound of thirty-one articles used for food, was \$4.87, compared with \$4.92 for the week before and \$4.88 for the corresponding week in 1919.

POPULARIZING THE CHEAPER CUTS OF MEAT

MARCH 22 the first gun was fired in the government's new spring drive against the H. C. of L. The artillery this time is trained on the price of meat. "Buy forequarter cuts!" is the slogan. Attorney-General Palmer is in supreme command. Packers man the batteries. Retail dealers are in the rear bringing up ammunition. Club women furnish the music, beating the casserole and the stew-pan.

That the less expensive parts of the meat animal are as nutritious as the higher-priced cuts, and, properly handled, may form the basis for as wholesome, palatable, and attractive dishes, is a well-established, though not sufficiently well-known, fact. Equally well established, and better known, is the other fact that people who, when they cannot afford the loins and ribs of their first choice, as their second choice go without rather than buy chucks and tails. War prosperity has swelled the membership of the Sirloin Club beyond all reasonable bounds. War prices, on the other hand, have augmented the ranks of the Doing-Without Society. As a consequence, forequarter cuts have gone begging, adding still further to the cost of the hindquarter tidbits, which naturally are saddled with the waste. This, of course, is false economy under any circumstances, and doubly false economy in times like these when half the world is meat-starved while the other half has little or no incentive for producing meat. And it is this condition that the Department of Justice is endeavoring to remedy by disseminating the right kind of information, carefully predigested and capsuled.

We hope its efforts may bear worth-while fruit. Previous campaigns of this or similar nature have too often met with but indifferent success. Too many reform movements have been notable chiefly for the bugle-blast heralding their start. Skeptics are not wanting in this instance who prophesy that the experiment will prove abortive; that at best its only tangible result will be an advance in prices of the cheaper cuts commensurate with the increased demand—landing us once more in the vicious circle from which it seems so hopeless to escape.

If the plan works out as anticipated, the producer, in theory, will benefit as much as the consumer. During the last year our per-capita consumption of meat, particularly of beef, has fallen off considerably, in response to rising prices. At the same time meat exports have greatly diminished, and probably will continue to do so for an indefinite period. By stimulating and stabilizing the domestic demand, the home market may be expected to take care of a large proportion of the normal surplus, to that extent compensating the stock-raiser for losses caused by the closing of the foreign outlet.

Stock-raisers, and meat-eaters generally, will watch the outcome of the experiment with interest.

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL OF FOREST SERVICE

HENRY S. GRAVES, Forester, and his associate, Albert F. Potter, have resigned, to take effect April 15. In their stead Secretary Meredith has appointed William G. Greeley chief of the Forest Service, and E. A. Sherman Associate Forester. Both of these men have been long connected with the Service. For several years Mr. Greeley has been Assistant Forester in charge of the Timber Division. Mr. Sherman has been Assistant Forester in charge of the Lands Division.

It is with great regret that we announce the retirement of Messrs. Graves and Potter from the Forest Service. Colonel Graves succeeded Hon. Gifford Pinchot in 1910, and has most creditably administered the vast domain intrusted to his care. During the war he was in charge of the timber operations of the United States army in France, and left that post with a record of memorable achievement.

His associate, Mr. Potter, is one of the oldest employees of the Service, having become connected with it in 1901. Upon the retirement of Overton Price, in 1910, Mr. Potter became Associate Forester. In addition to his other duties, he has had supreme charge of the Grazing Division of the National Forests. Previous thereto he was assistant in charge of the Grazing Division.

Both Colonel Graves and Mr. Potter are well and favorably known to the majority of stockmen in the intermountain region, all of whom will feel a distinct loss in their departure. Colonel Graves intends to take a long rest, and will probably later engage in some branch of forestry or the lumber business. Mr. Potter expects to retire permanently from active work and to locate at Los Angeles. These two good men have served their country well, and we wish them good health, success, and happiness.

The new appointees, Mr. Greeley and Mr. Sherman, because of their long connection with the Service and their splendid abilities, are thoroughly equipped for the work they undertake. We understand they will follow the general policies as to grazing inaugurated by their predecessors. This means that, so far as they are concerned, no change in the grazing fees will be advocated until the end of the five-year-permit system now in effect, which expires in 1923. Probably about a year before the termination of those permits a study will be made of the value of grazing on the national forests, and the result of that investigation will be submitted to stockmen for their consideration and action. Nothing will be done by the Forest Service officials without first presenting the plan to the users of the grazing on the forests. In fact, the same method will be pursued as was adopted when the last change in grazing fees was under consideration. At present, grazing conditions on all land are inflated and abnormal, and it is the view of the Forest Service officials that nothing should be done until the

situation steadies, so that a fair study of the value and a fair comparison may be arrived at.

W. C. Barnes, who has been Assistant Forester in charge of grazing, will, we believe, remain in that capacity. Mr. Barnes has been with the Service for fifteen years, and is regarded as the best-informed grazing man in that bureau. Previous to entering the Service he was engaged in the live-stock business in the Southwest, and he is thoroughly conversant, not only with the live-stock industry, but with all the ramifications of the many intricate problems connected with the administration of grazing. He is most favorably known throughout the West, and his many friends will be glad to learn that he will continue in his present position.

SALARIES OF FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES

DURING THE PAST YEAR many live-stock associations have adopted resolutions urging Congress to grant an increase in salary to the employees of the national forests, to offset in part the advance in the cost of living. It is well known that many valued employees have left the Forest Service on account of the inadequacy of their pay, and others are contemplating such a move. This is not at all surprising; for these employees can, and do, readily secure a more liberal compensation in other fields.

The general exodus of these old, experienced employees has seriously crippled the administration of the forests. After a supervisor or ranger has become thoroughly familiar with his work, and well acquainted with the people with whom he must deal, it is poor economy for the government to permit him to leave on account of a few hundred dollars' additional pay; and it is even worse for the stockmen, as it entails many vexatious and annoying complications arising from lack of knowledge of the new man.

We are therefore glad to announce that in the agricultural appropriation bill, which has just passed both houses of Congress, provision is made for advancing the base salary of forest supervisors \$180 per annum, and that of forest rangers \$120 per annum. This is a step in the right direction. For the past year these employees have been receiving a bonus of \$240 annually, and during the previous year a bonus of \$120. The bill now pending in Congress, which regulates the salaries of most of the departments, carries a continuance of the \$240 bonus to these Forest Service employees for another year. It is hoped that this bonus, together with the increase in the base salary, will result in the retention of many of the old and experienced employees who are now contemplating making a change.

Our government can ill afford to be niggardly in the payment of its servants, even in these times of federal economy.

PASS THE PURE-FABRIC LAW!

THERE IS PENDING IN CONGRESS a bill which should have the whole-hearted support of every wool-grower, as well as of every dealer in and user of articles made from wool. It is known as the "Truth-in-Fabric" bill. Its object is to reveal to purchasers the make-up of any material purporting to contain wool. It would make compulsory on every factor involved in handling such materials, from fabric-maker to retailer, the employment of a label stating their exact ingredients.

The term "all wool" used to be synonymous with "virgin wool." It is so no more. It may mean "all shoddy," "half shoddy," "half wool and half cotton," or anything the ingenious dealer chooses to imply. The clothing manufacturer who orders a quantity of "all-wool" goods, the wholesaler who lays in a stock of "all-wool" wearing apparel, the individual who buys an "all-wool" suit, have no protection whatever against this sort of trickery and deception. They have not the slightest guarantee that what they get is virgin wool—fresh, pure wool straight from the sheep's back. They have no assurance that what they pay "all-wool" prices for is not shoddy—dead, worn-out, broken fibers run through the mill perhaps a dozen times. The sheep-raiser is made to compete with the rag-picker; the public is compelled to pay top prices for bottom quality.

Shoddy has its uses—there is not enough fresh wool in the world to go around. Substitutes—such as cotton, artificial silk, etc.—are serviceable makeshifts for a multitude of purposes. But these materials should be known by their real names, and not be allowed to masquerade under false titles. Let those who do not object to shoddy have shoddy, be told that they are getting shoddy, and pay for shoddy. Let those who are content to wear garments of mixed fabric be informed of the character and percentage of the substitutes, and charged substitute prices. Everyone has precisely the same right to know what he puts on his back as to know what he puts into his mouth.

It is difficult to see how rational objection can be raised to this legislation, aimed as it is, wholly and solely, at the swindler and the profiteer. It should stop a reprehensible practice that has become altogether too prevalent. It should help safeguard essential industries. It should tend to lower the present unjustifiably high price of clothing. It should make for honesty in business methods generally. Whatever apparent obstacles stand in the way of its practical enforcement will be easily overcome. The parallel case of the Pure-Food Law, widely opposed at first as unenforceable, offers ample evidence of both the feasibility and the utility of such reforms.

The bill, introduced in the upper chamber of Congress by Senator Capper, of Kansas, and in the House by Representative French, of Idaho, is vigorously championed by the National Sheep and Wool Bureau of Amer-

ica; it has been unqualifiedly indorsed by organizations of sheep-raisers east and west; retail clothiers' associations are actively supporting it; the press throughout the country is backing it. As will be remembered, the American National Live Stock Association at the Spokane convention adopted a resolution urging its speedy enactment. Pass it!

ADJUSTMENT OF RATES ON DROUGHT CATTLE

IN PREVIOUS ISSUES mention has been made of the action of the United States Railroad Administration in granting reduced rates for movement of live stock from the drought areas of the West and Northwest to southern pastures. The basis established was the prevailing north-bound range-cattle rates, with provision for one-third of the going charge on the return movement.

At the outset the Railroad Administration thought it best to publish such special reduced rates only as they were applied for. Later on it was considered advisable to generalize the basis throughout the entire drought area. In a few instances there was delay in publication of the rates, and stockmen were forced to ship before the rates were officially put into effect; but in most such cases the Railroad Administration gave assurance that the reduced basis would be protected.

Where drought shipments were made before the rates went into effect, and shippers were promised the protection of this basis, we have no doubt that, upon presentation of a proper claim, the overcharge will be adjusted, as the matter has been fully explained to the officials of the Railroad Administration by the officers of the American National Live Stock Association.

CHICAGO FEED-OVERCHARGE CASES

IT WILL BE REMEMBERED that in the six cases involving overcharges in feed accounts of commission firms at Chicago, the Secretary of Agriculture was restrained by temporary injunction, which was afterward made permanent, from revoking licenses because of refusal to restore overcharges to shippers; also that the department's appeal from this decision was dismissed January 20, 1920.

In further considering these cases, the Secretary of Agriculture recently notified the licensees involved that, in the opinion of the department, they violated the general regulations governing licensees in the accumulation of these overcharges, but that it would be satisfactory to the department if the funds so accumulated were pro-rated among the various customers of these licensees. This arrangement was proposed as a compromise measure, and the licensees were notified that, unless assurance was given on or before March 25, 1920, that such a distribution would take place, the revocation of licenses would be considered.

This notice resulted in applications for another injunction restraining the secretary from taking any further action in these cases until the matter is heard by the federal court. This hearing was set for April 8, 1920.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

A COWMAN'S DOLLAR—WHERE IT WENT

TUCUMCARI, N. M., March 20, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The writer has failed to find in any publication a graphic description showing the operations of cattle-raisers. He has noted statements to the effect that cattle-raisers have been operating at a loss, but with no supporting statistics showing how the loss was incurred. The deficit of our company (Boyle & Newman), exhibiting a net loss of 20.46 per cent in operations for two years, is, in my opinion, the proportionate average loss sustained by stock-raisers in the Panhandle of Texas and New Mexico.

The late "Buyers' and Sellers' Convention" held at Amarillo, Tex., resulted in no buying and no selling. The cattle-raiser could not afford to sell and break even. The feeder could not see his way clear to buy, money being tight, and take a chance to repeat last year's disaster.

To my mind, one of three things will happen under existing conditions:

1. The cost of labor, feed, and supplies, etc., must come down, taxes and current rates of interest must be reduced, and credits more easily obtained;
2. Better cattle prices must be secured; or
3. The cattle-raiser must liquidate and go out of business.

There is no use dwelling upon the subject of high cost of labor, material, feed, and supplies. There is no use to dwell upon the subject of taxes. The subject of cattle prices is a matter known to the cattle-raiser. But as to the matter of money and credits, permit me to bring to your attention the following circumstances:

During the year 1918, when money was tight, the writer endeavored to borrow funds for operating expenses. He had in his possession \$5,000 worth of Liberty Bonds, and attempted to obtain a loan on these bonds, but was informed by the local banks in New Mexico, and by the banks in Amarillo and Fort Worth, Tex., that they could not make loans on these bonds, for the reason that they did not have the money; that the matter of obtaining money was not a question of collateral, but a question of the tightness of the money market. He thereupon turned the bonds over to a bank in Fort Worth, which in turn sent them to New York, where they were sold at a loss.

In the spring of 1919 we had some obligations to meet, covering vendor's-lien notes maturing May 1, 1919. We had at this time about 1,200 head of cattle, unincumbered. The writer attempted to obtain a loan from the local banks, and from the loan companies in Kansas City and St. Louis, but was informed that, on account of the tightness of the money market, no loan was possible. The situation had to be met. We finally found a loan company willing to make us a loan on the condition that some of these cattle be sent to Kansas pastures. This was done, with rather disastrous results. A drought in Kansas obtained. There was neither grass nor water, and at the time of shipping these cattle to Kansas City in October and November, 1919, the market was demoralized. There was a loss on the

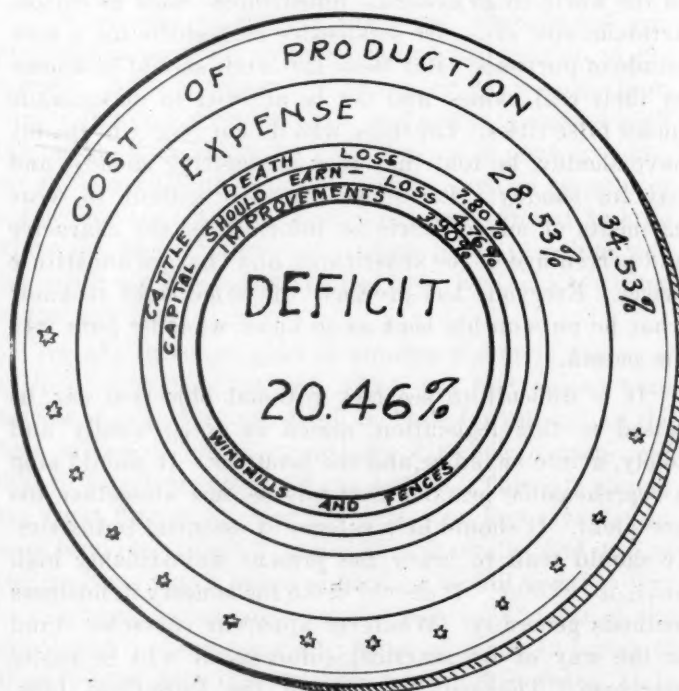
pasture bill on the cattle of \$18 per head, plus transportation charges, plus interest.

There is no use evading the issue—a cattle-raiser under the existing conditions cannot exist. He must obtain money at better rates of time and interest than ninety-day paper at 10 per cent; and cattle-raisers are unable to secure loans even on these terms.

You will note that we were fortunate enough to lease part of our land, due to the misfortune of Wyoming cattle-growers on account of the drought conditions, for \$7,051.84, which was the only source that enabled us to obtain operating-expense money.

Permit me to invite your attention to "A Cowman's Dollar." There has been reproduced in nearly all periodicals of the country "A Packer's Dollar, and Where It Goes." I trust our dollar will bring to your attention "Where It Went." Eighty-five per cent of a Packer's Dollar to the producer is a 20.46 per cent loss to the cattle-raiser.

BOYLE & NEWMAN, CATTLE-RAISERS
Range—San Miguel County, New Mexico
Ranch Operations January 1, 1918, to December 31, 1919



"A COWMAN'S DOLLAR—WHERE IT WENT"

Purchases and production.....	34.53%
Death loss, cattle.....	7.80%
Windmills and fences.....	3.90%
Capital should earn—loss.....	4.76%
Expenses—labor, feed, freight, etc.....	28.55%
Deficit—net loss.....	20.46%

\$1.00

And it is only because we are small and could not control the market that we had to stand this loss. E. D. NEWMAN.

SAFEGUARDS NEEDED IN BEEF PRODUCTION

BROWNLEE, NEB., March 24, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The market press continues to discredit the efforts of cattlemen who seek to have federal regulation of the packers, maintaining that we ask destructive legislation. The Act to Create a Live-Stock Commission is along the same constructive lines as state and national banking laws, and interstate commerce commissions. It is to act as a safeguard, and no business that is being conducted in a fair and competitive manner need fear such legislation. Almost anything as a ruse to cloud the issue comes to us from packer boosters—such as "knocking big business," for example. We are not trying to block big business; we are only asking for laws to prevent unscrupulous dealings at market centers. Some of the methods employed to obstruct the legislation we ask for would put any ward politician to shame. Every state organization has felt this.

There will have to be some safeguards in this beef-producing business, in order to restore confidence; for we cannot go on in the same old way—namely, selling in a market for what we can get, and buying in markets of fixed valuations that insure a reasonable profit to the seller. If the laws of supply and demand entirely rule the values of cattle, then we are suffering from a dose of overproduction; but the consumer still pays a high price for meat, while we sell at a loss, and consequently the consumer seems to be eating less beef—not a bright outlook for further increased production on our part.

Production costs do not show any signs of being lowered, and the future market is anybody's guess, as usual.

A business so vital to a nation as food production cannot expand and attract recruits under these conditions.

We shall either place ourselves in a position to command a just and reasonable profit on beef, or else continue as we have heretofore, taking more losses than profits. More close organization will help. Establishing retail shops might help the consumer to eat more beef and increase the demand. It is worth a trial, at least.

For one thing, we must stand together on issues that affect our business, or go down; and it is gratifying to note the stand the Texas Cattle Raisers' Association took on the question of packer legislation, although a market report found space to belittle the efforts of Mr. Lasater and Mr. Turney.

Live-stock associations were not formed for political purposes; but I think the time is coming, if not already here, when we shall have to send more cattlemen to Congress.

HOWARD GUILFOIL.

GLORIES OF IMPERIAL VALLEY EXTOLLED

CALIPATRIA, CAL., March 25, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

It may be interesting to your readers to have a pen-picture of the great Imperial Valley. If history makes us wise, experience, travel, and keen observation broaden our views. The casual visitor need not study ancient Egypt to appreciate Imperial Valley. It is an empire in itself. All honor to the brave pioneer who conceived, and to those who aided him in partially completing, the world's greatest irrigation project! They deserve to be numbered among the benefactors of our country.

Imperial Valley has a climate of almost perpetual summer, whereas Santa Barbara and Del Monte represent eternal spring. Its products comprise the earliest, rarest, most boundless variety, second to none on earth in quality and abundance. In 1919 its shipments exceeded in value \$63,000,000.

Since the crying need of the world is for greater production, the fact should not be overlooked that Imperial Valley did its part nobly throughout the war, going "over the top." Congress, therefore, should not only be a unit in favor of the

proposition of setting aside 250,000 acres for a soldier settlement of rich, frostless, desert mesa lands, but should provide an "all-American canal" and help conserve to the utmost all the flood waters possible in the great Colorado River, so as to bring every acre of irrigable land into equally marvelous productivity.

No more pleasing sight was ever presented than that furnished by thousands of hungry cattle brought from drought-stricken districts, or from the blizzard-swept intermountain states, contentedly grazing in alfalfa and barley up to their very knees in January. In 1910 the total number of beef and dairy cattle in the valley, so far as can be authentically learned, was 14,063; which number has since been augmented until it now reaches the grand total of 72,563.

It is a pleasure to note that nearly all the cattle in the valley are well-bred, large-sized, beautiful animals—almost as gentle as dairy cows. Cattle shipped here in October are afforded unlimited green pasture throughout the "winter." This, coupled with a little milo-maize or cottonseed meal, forms an ideal food for quickly rounding them out into prime marketable condition. Last year 2,663 carloads of live stock were shipped out of the valley.

Owing to the world scarcity of cotton, thousands of acres of upward of seven-year-old alfalfa-fields have been plowed up. The valley still has about 100,000 acres in alfalfa, while 76,000 acres have been planted to cotton, which area will be increased this coming season to more than 100,000 acres.

Old King Cotton, however, will never rule supreme over Imperial Valley. Alfalfa, sweet clover, barley, Rhodes and Sudan grass, etc., will combine to make it, with its abundance of midwinter pasture, the earliest and most profitable live-stock and dairy center on earth. History proves that no country which continuously raises cotton or cereals remains prosperous; but live-stock husbandry and dairying maintain the productivity of the soil to the end of time.

I shall not attempt to describe all of the valley's manifold products. Suffice it to say that the live-stock industry is second to none. Over 12,000 fewer feeders were shipped here this season than last, because nearly all adjoining states had pasture to spare. Nevertheless there are more sheep in the valley than ever before, the number aggregating over 140,000. Many of these have come from Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.

The value of animals shipped in last year totaled more than \$63,000,000. From this, however, should be deducted the cost of the feeder steers. Therefore the estimate of \$50,000,000 may be about right.

The next time the members of the American National Live Stock Association meet in California, they should plan an excursion to this midwinter summer land and see it for themselves. They will be assured a cordial welcome.

CHARLES W. COE.

SPRING IN ARIZONA

YUCCA, ARIZ., March 27, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The sun has gone half-way round the calendar since I wrote you last. I wish I could tell you of the winter and you could see the cattle. Such weather! Such steers! Never did I know cattle could come through a season on the range and look as they do here and now. Young stuff is all shed off, and most of it would make excellent beef. Cows with young calves look as one would expect them to look in June. Truly, it would seem the hearts of the cowmen should be singing a "Te Deum;" and maybe they would but for the unprecedented seesaw of prices, which keeps most of them juggling their figures to keep the profit marks on the right side of the ledger.

We sent three cowhides to San Francisco, receiving \$11.60 for the lot. My husband had a pair of No. 5 cowboys' boots made in Texas, and the bill, plus parcel post, plus war tax, was \$29.96. Doesn't it seem that there should be a junction somewhere this side of Mars?

I have not seen a single victim of blackleg; in fact, I have not seen any dead cattle recently at all. Some of the cowmen contend that the heavy rains have cleansed the range of the blackleg germ.

I have just read the March PRODUCER "from kiver to kiver." We think the best way to circumvent the packers would be to start co-operative plants, each cowman buying as many shares as his herd would require, and no one being allowed to "hog" too much capital stock.

There is already a good deal of riding for strays, but at this time I do not know when the actual spring work will commence. There are a good many calves—new ones every day; but, of course, not enough to justify the beginning of regular spring work.

It is a long jump from beef steers to bouquets, but there are roses and tulips, hyacinths and carnations, all trying to outbloom each other this very day in my garden.

MRS. M. P. CHAPMAN.

HAVE STOCKMEN BENEFITED FROM NATIONAL FORESTS

THREE CREEK, IDAHO, March 25, 1920.

TO THE PRODUCER:

The undersigned has been in the range cattle business for a great many years. I want to ask members of the American National Live Stock Association what their experience has been in ranging on the so-called national forests. Are range conditions any better now than they were previous to the time of national forests, and has the range cattle business been benefited in any way by the use of the forests?

My own experience with ranging cattle on the forest reserves has been just this, that if I am to remain in the cattle business I shall have to find range not covered by the reserves. I believe that, if the public domain is held as a forest reserve, and present conditions and the present management there are allowed to continue, every cattleman in the range business will have to quit.

Will others, through the columns of THE PRODUCER, tell us of their experiences and give us their opinions on this question?

S. C. DUNN.

WILD ANIMALS ON NATIONAL FORESTS

A REPORT RECENTLY SUBMITTED to the Biological Survey at Washington by the office of the district forester at Denver contains the following interesting estimates by district rangers of the number of game and predatory animals inhabiting the national forests of Colorado and Wyoming in 1919:

	Colorado	Wyoming
Antelopes	50	312
Bears—		
Black or brown	2,659	731
Silver-tip	61	56
Beavers	33,777	385
Coyotes	27,625	4,071
Deer—		
Mule	23,797	8,256
White-tailed	62	325
Elks	5,384	5,496
Foxes	922	105
Moose .....	....	333
Mountain lions	687	104
Mountain sheep	6,772	1,451
Wildcats	7,459	1,557
Wolves	284	69

AMERICAN MERCHANT MARINE FORGING TO THE FRONT

FINAL TRADE STATISTICS issued by the Department of Commerce bring out the interesting fact that American vessels are now leading the merchant marines of the world in the movement of domestic ocean-borne exports from the United States. This position, which we have not held for many decades, is, of course, due to the enormous increase in our merchant fleet resulting from our war ship-building program. Over one-third, or 36.85 per cent, of our exports in 1919 were carried in American bottoms, against 34.4 per cent credited to the British. The following table presents the value of American exports carried by the different merchant marines in 1919 and, for comparison, in 1916:

Carried in	1919	1916
American vessels.....	\$2,549,641,908	\$293,181,705
Foreign vessels—		
Austrian	22,382	.....
Belgian	102,936,289	2,016,362
British	2,453,710,913	176,414,211
Danish	140,606,725	6,084,438
Dutch	164,834,366	15,267,815
French	163,285,016	9,057,128
German	130,619	.....
Italian	241,183,601	22,471,856
Japanese	359,844,178	29,567,600
Norwegian	401,373,116	20,751,156
Spanish	101,259,631	9,091,430
All other	273,455,828	7,321,144
Total in foreign vessels.....	\$4,402,642,664	\$298,043,140

NEW POISONOUS PLANT DISCOVERED IN SOUTH

A PLANT which seems likely to be of considerable danger as a cause of stock-poisoning in the southern states has come into notice within the past two years, says the Department of Agriculture. It is a small shrub or tree belonging to the pea family. There is no popular name for it in general use. To botanists it is known as *Daubentonia longifolia*. The leaflets are alternate, with twelve to sixty leaflets, and the flowers range in color from scarlet to bright yellow. The pods are peculiar, having four wings, and the seeds are separated from one another by cross-partitions.

The plant grows in the Gulf region and in Texas to the northeastern border of the state. It is very abundant along the lower Rio Grande and in the neighborhood of San Antonio. All reported cases of poisoning have been of sheep and goats.

In light cases, the main symptom is depression, usually accompanied by diarrhea. When animals are fatally poisoned there are no pronounced symptoms. They become weak, the breathing is labored, and they die with very little struggling. A considerable period, sometimes a full day, elapses between eating and the appearance of any symptoms of poisoning.

The poison appears to be in the seeds. The green plants are not known to do any harm. Less than two ounces of the seeds may kill a sheep, and a little more than one ounce may produce very harmful effects.

Little can be done in the way of remedies. Laxatives, like Epsom salts, aid in the elimination of the poison; but the main reliance must be on prevention.

The known facts are embodied in Circular 82, "A New Sheep-Poisoning Plant of the Southern States," copies of which may be had free on application to the Division of Publications, United States Department of Agriculture.

A baby born the other day had three well-developed teeth at birth. How quickly the country is responding to the chuck-steak campaign!—*Philadelphia North American*.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

NEW CHIEF OF MARKET DIVISION

STEPHEN BRAY, connected with the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture since 1905, and since 1916 doing general investigational work for the Bureau of Markets, where he had supervision of the market-reporting and information service, has succeeded Louis D. Hall as acting in charge of marketing live stock and meats, and of stock-yard supervision, under the latter bureau.

Mr. Bray announces that no radical changes in the policy of this division are contemplated. It is his opinion, however, that the point has been reached where the service may be rendered of increased value to the live-stock industry, especially producers and shippers, by disseminating certain important marketing information which the bureau has been securing, but which heretofore has not been available. The appropriation for this work, as it appears at the present stage of the agricultural appropriation bill for the next fiscal year, is approximately the same as this year's allowance. If the cost of the leased-wire service is not materially altered, this service will be continued practically as at present.

The authority for the stock-yard supervision work, conducted under the Food-Control Act, will expire with the declaration of peace, in whatever form that may be done.

GRAZING PERMITS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS

PERMITS NOW BEING ISSUED by the Forest Service for grazing on the national forests of the Rocky Mountain region this summer will provide for the following number of animals in territory wholly or partially comprised within District 2, according to estimates by forest officials:

	Cattle and Horses	Sheep
Colorado	413,645	1,148,840
Wyoming	94,385	453,400
South Dakota	45,985	7,450
Nebraska	15,500	.....

ROADS FOR NATIONAL FORESTS

THIRTY THOUSAND MILES OF ROAD, estimated to cost not less than \$150,000,000, will be needed for the proper protection and development of the national forests and adjoining communities during the next ten years, according to comprehensive road plans prepared by the Department of Agriculture. The construction of 5,152 miles of roads, estimated to cost \$26,463,000, has already been approved, contingent on federal and co-operative funds becoming available. Government expenditures of \$15,740,000 have been authorized for this purpose.

The roads comprised in these plans form the basis of the ultimate national-forest road system. They are used as main highways, either in connection with through routes or to serve important local needs. The construction of feeder roads is being postponed until the primary-road system is completed.

GRAZING FEES YIELD A PROFIT

IN THE MARCH ISSUE of *THE PRODUCER* we pointed out that the fees charged for grazing on the national forests showed a substantial profit over and above the actual cost of administration, etc. We now present a detailed statement, compiled from official sources, showing receipts and expenditures from, or chargeable to, the management of grazing on the national forests for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1919:

RECEIPTS

Cattle, horses, and swine.....	\$1,607,006.85
Sheep and goats.....	949,955.35
Grazing trespass	52,207.65

\$2,609,169.85

EXPENDITURES

Administration	\$475,000.00
Range improvements	50,000.00
Experiments and investigations.....	35,000.00
Surveys and estimates.....	25,000.00
25 per cent apportionment to the states	652,292.46
10 per cent road fund.....	260,916.98
Special apportionment to Arizona and New Mexico	78,867.60
	1,577,077.04

Net return above all costs and expenditures.. \$1,032,092.81

NATIONAL-FOREST RECEIPTS GROWING

RECEIPTS FROM THE NATIONAL FORESTS for the seven months ending January 31, 1920, totaled \$1,418,144.18, as against \$1,111,321.21 for the same period of the preceding fiscal year, according to reports to the Forest Service. Timber sales show the largest increase—\$271,175.42; water power comes next, with \$17,450.54, followed by special uses, \$7,600.61, and grazing, \$7,022.32.

LIVE-STOCK LOSSES ON NATIONAL FORESTS

FIGURES COMPILED from the reports of forest supervisors show that the losses of live stock from disease on the national forests of the Intermountain District during 1919 amounted to 254 cattle, 5 horses, and 1,084 sheep. Poisonous plants took a toll of 2,528 cattle, 27 horses, and 5,917 sheep. Predatory animals destroyed 118 cattle, 5 horses, and 16,454 sheep. From other and unknown causes the losses were 368 cattle and horses and 5,784 sheep.

Of the poisonous plants, larkspur is responsible for the greatest losses. Owing to lack of men to supervise the work and to high labor cost, the eradication of this plant on the scale contemplated could not be carried out last season. However, larkspur was eradicated from 1,657 acres in the national forests during the year, making a total of 3,580 acres grubbed since the work began, at a cost of \$5.50 per acre. The stockmen have stood about half of this expense.

FOREST SERVICE WARNS AGAINST COMING FIRES

THAT THE COMING FOREST-FIRE SEASON will be a bad one, according to present indications, is the opinion of officials of the Forest Service, and steps have been taken to circulate millions of fire warnings throughout the Southwest, so as to reach every inhabitant of Arizona and New Mexico. The light snows in the mountains this winter, it is held, are likely to contribute to an early and intense fire season in the national forests, since, owing to lack of moisture, the ground litter will dry out more rapidly and green vegetation, which retards fires, will start more slowly than in years of heavier snowfall.

The Forest Service points out that there is an enormous crop of one-year-old western yellow pine seedlings throughout the pine belt of the Southwest, and that extreme care with fire is necessary to preserve this crop from destruction.

Army aviators, while patrolling their aerial beats along the Mexican border, will take time to locate and report forest fires on the Coronado National Forest, in southern Arizona, under an agreement entered into between the Air Service and the Forest Service. The region covered by this patrol includes the Chiricahua, Tumacacori, and Huachuca mountain ranges. When forest fires are discovered by the airmen, notice will be telegraphed to the nearest forest ranger.

LIVE STOCK ON NATIONAL FORESTS OF SOUTHWEST

THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE has authorized the grazing of 901,550 head of sheep and goats, 541,750 head of cattle and horses, and 3,355 head of swine on the Arizona and New Mexico national forests for the grazing year beginning April 1, 1920. The number of animals actually grazed will be much greater than shown by these figures, as, according to the national-forest regulations, stock under six months of age at the beginning of the grazing season is neither counted nor charged for. The stock is owned by about 3,700 cattlemen and 800 sheepmen.

TO INVESTIGATE DWINDLING TIMBER SUPPLY

IN ORDER that the public may be fully informed as to the depletion of the forest resources of the United States, the Senate has directed the Secretary of Agriculture to secure, through the Forest Service, all possible information on the depletion of the timber supply, its relation to present lumber prices, the effect of lumber export on home industries, and the concentration of ownership in private timber lands. The Forest Service is now engaged in preparing this information for the Senate from records and statistics which it has been collecting for years.

NEW METHOD OF TESTING FOR TUBERCULOSIS

AN INNOVATION of much importance in the testing of accredited herds in the nation-wide drive to eradicate tuberculosis is the order issued by the Department of Agriculture recognizing the intradermal method of applying the first test. According to this method, injection is made between the layers of the skin, and no general temperature results. A small swelling follows at the injection if the animal is tubercular. The plan has been strongly advocated by some state veterinarians and breeders.

Heretofore the only recognized test was the subcutaneous one, which raised a temperature in diseased animals, and involved at least three readings of temperature before the test and seven at short regular intervals soon after—altogether a rather slow, though accurate, process. The newly recognized test has been in use as a "check" for some time, and is relatively simple in comparison.

The order recognizing the intradermal method provides that the second test, a year after the first, and upon which the certificate of freedom from tuberculosis is issued, shall be by the original, or subcutaneous, method. It is further provided that the intradermal method shall be recognized only in states which will themselves recognize it. About three-fourths of the forty-five states now co-operating with the federal government in promoting the accredited-herd plan have recognized the intradermal test, and the rest are expected to do so before long.

A third method is being tried out with the hope that it may eventually be officially recognized. It is known as the ophthalmic, in which the injection is made in the eye, the presence of disease being indicated by inflammation.

As there are a large number of "waiting" herds to be tested, the new order will be a most welcome one, and will tend to hasten the day when stock-raisers will have throttled one of their worst enemies.

TUBERCULOSIS-ERADICATION WORK IN FEBRUARY

DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1920, 56,132 cattle, belonging to 3,117 herds or lots, were tested for tuberculosis by agents of the Bureau of Animal Industry in co-operation with the various states. Of this number, 2,337 cattle, or 4.16 per cent, reacted. There were a total of 1,907 accredited herds throughout the country. Minnesota led with 336; Virginia had 294.

FEW IMPORTED CATTLE TUBERCULOUS

FEDERAL TUBERCULIN TESTS OF CATTLE reaching the United States from foreign countries show relative freedom from tuberculosis. According to a report of the Bureau of Animal Industry for the last fiscal year, 885 cattle intended for import were tested, and all except sixteen passed the test. Through arrangements with the British government the bureau has for several years maintained an inspector in Great Britain, among whose duties is the tuberculin-testing of cattle intended for shipment to the United States. Cattle not accompanied by tuberculin-test certificates, or approved by the bureau inspector in Great Britain, must be tested in quarantine after arrival in the United States.

CALF CARCASSES NEED NOT BE SKINNED

CHANGES IN FEDERAL MEAT-INSPECTION REQUIREMENTS by which slaughtered calves from regions quarantined because of the cattle-fever tick may be shipped to market without the skins having been first removed, were announced recently by the Bureau of Animal Industry. The amendment is expected to benefit cattle-raisers in tick territory, because it should enable them to get better prices for their calves. It also may help in the tick-eradication work, as it will encourage the sale of young stock for slaughter, and thus reduce the number of animals that must be dipped. These benefits are expected to be especially noticeable in Texas and Florida.

WAR DEPARTMENT AS CATTLE-BREEDER

THROUGH ITS BUREAU OF INSULAR AFFAIRS the Department of War recently purchased in Texas one hundred Hereford bulls and twenty Hereford heifers for breeding into the stock of Philippine Zebu cows. The animals will be forwarded to the Philippines aboard an army transport for use in the island of Mindanao. The bureau considers the live-stock industry in the Philippines promising, about 48,000 square miles of the archipelago being grass lands.

LIVE-STOCK RETURNS DELAYED

LIVE-STOCK FIGURES under the new census are reported to be coming in slowly and in unsatisfactory condition. On that account the final data on our live-stock population will probably not be available until fall.

THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET AT BEGINNING OF APRIL

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., April 1, 1920.

REITERATION OF DETERMINATION "never to feed another steer" agitates stock-yard atmosphere, reverberates throughout the length and breadth of the Corn Belt, and finds echo space in the nooks and crannies of the trans-Missouri region, where a considerable quantity of winter-made beef will figure on the wrong side of the ledger. The last vestige of optimism disappeared during March, when the fact became evident that heavy loss could not be evaded. Wherever two or more cattle-feeders happened to get together, grievances have been aired. To make matters worse, corn advanced while cattle slumped. That optimism was not lacking is indicated by persistent holding of heavy bullocks, in the futile hope that something or other—nobody appeared to have a definite idea what it would be—would ultimately arrest the slump. Each week recorded still lower levels, the climax arriving late in March, when, in violation of agreements, not to speak of decency, some 1,800 employees of the Chicago Stock Yard Company quit without a moment's notice, refusing arbitration, catching some 25,000 cattle in transit, the owners of which were subjected to heavy and unnecessary loss.

No Demand for Heavy Bullocks

At the inception of April both the situation and the prospect were deplorable. Light cattle could be sold, but there was no reliable demand for heavy bullocks, plain or qualified. At irregular intervals, when Fred Harvey needed choice beef for his chain of eating-houses, a \$15 sale was recorded; but the practical top had dropped to \$14, making the market on heavy bullocks \$5 to \$6 per cwt. lower than at the corresponding time last year, while light and cheap grades showed depreciation of \$2 to \$2.50 per cwt. Practically every weighty bullock finished during the past three months has been figured in red ink; light cattle have more than paid for their feed, and in many cases show a profit. What has happened was by no means unheralded, as it is merely repetition of winter and spring performance in recent years, with the exception of 1919. Two years ago, it will be remembered, when Br'er Hoover was admonishing beef-eaters to use it sparingly, and at the same time urging feeders to increase production, the bottom fell out of the market, and reference to the "dope" will disclose the fact that for ten years past demand for heavy cattle has steadily waned. The obvious remedy for this catastrophic condition is to change the winter-feeding policy. Last fall feeders competed with packers on fleshy steers, paying anywhere from \$12 to \$14 per cwt. for cattle that have been returning to market to realize little more than first cost, while gains have been put on at an expense of \$22 to \$30 per cwt. Evidently the system must be revised, or the cattle business will speedily hike to the bow-wows.

Manipulation of Corn Market Charged

Feeders are not wholly to blame. Dollar corn was a popular slogan last fall when cattle went in; what that grain would have realized had the market not been manipulated must be left to conjecture, but that feeders have been the victims of a corn corner will not be disputed. They were forced to use grain costing \$1.25 to \$1.50 per bushel, and were practically prevented from using nitrogenous concentrates, as prices were prohibitive. Now that they are getting their "trimmings," they are avowing a determination to banish the steer perpetually; but the lure of the game is irresistible, and it is highly probable that, should

heavy cattle command stiff prices through the summer and fall, the performance will be repeated.

Manipulation of the corn market is openly alleged. Grain has piled up in country elevators, while farmers have been unable to get cars to move it; a coterie of board-of-trade speculators meanwhile boosting prices and gathering in shekels by the million. The resultant scandal has prompted a federal investigation; but, as usual, the plunderbund will "get away with it." The government estimate on the 1919 crop of corn was 1,092,000,000 bushels, or 236,731,000 bushels more than the previous year; yet by manipulation prices have been maintained 12 to 15 cents higher than last year, while cattle have sold \$2.50 to \$6 lower than at that time, and hogs \$4.25 to \$4.85 lower. These figures indicate the extent to which the live-stock feeder has been mulcted by manipulation. Had the farmer been able to unload his corn at quoted prices, less reason for protest would exist; but Chicago pit gamblers, with assurance that grain would not be moved from interior to terminal points in time for deliveries, were able to sell at high prices. As usual, the farmer has been the goat.

Cattle Values Lowest of Year

Early April found cattle values at the lowest level of the year. The spread narrowed, packers getting few good dressed beef steers under \$11.50, while bullocks good enough for any trade had to be content with \$13. During March \$11.75 to \$12.75 took a large proportion of the cattle disgorged by Corn Belt feed-lots, and most of them fell far short of making anything like adequate returns for the corn consumed. An occasional spurt proved deceptive, as every bulge in prices stimulated loading in the country, and whenever killers had access to a few more carcasses than had been booked for sale they took fright. At all times packers were on the alert to smash values, frequently taking it off in chunks. Demand centered on steers capable of hanging up carcasses weighing 400 to 550 pounds—the lighter the better—buyers ignoring quality when they had an opportunity to evade weight; the result being that feeders who laid in light, common cattle last fall that returned to market weighing 800 to 900 pounds have realized as much, if not more, per cwt. than on good bullocks with more weight, some of these counterfeits showing a feeders' margin of \$6 to \$6.50 per cwt.

Stockers Selling Out of Line with Finished Stuff

Stocker trade naturally received a setback when the fat-cattle market slipped, but unfinished stock at all times sold out of line with fat grades—due not so much to willingness on the part of the country to go the pace as to the persistency with which packers competed on everything wearing a little beef. Bankers hoisted a danger signal, commission houses discouraged investment at going prices, but finishers displayed far more courage, if that term is warranted, paying \$12 to \$13 for fleshy steers to put on corn, at a time when killers would part with no more, if as much, money for the same kind; but popular demand has centered on 500- to 800-pound steers capable of putting on growth, selling at \$9.50 to \$11. The stock-cattle movement during March would have been 25 per cent heavier but for the semi-demoralized condition of the fat-cattle market.

Premium on Light Hogs

Armour has been a determined bear in the hog market right along, laying out half the time, and even refusing to pick up the flotsam and jetsam that has heretofore been his share of the crop. Outside competition forced the big packers to pay substantial premiums for light hogs, but, as the 250- to 350-pound stuff had no other outlet, they took it on practically their own terms. Thus, while light hogs—160- to 200-pound stuff—were selling at \$15 to \$16, they were able to buy big barrows at \$14 to \$14.50—the widest spread in trade history. Between German political upheavals, adverse foreign exchange, and heavy tonnage on the crop, the big hog has been penalized in much the same manner as the mammoth steer, cost of corn

being prohibitive of profit. Domestic consumption of pork is on a broad scale, but is confined to light loins, small hams, and thin bacon. The South is no longer buying "nigger" meat, and until Germany buys lard in considerable quantities the prospect will not improve. Provision stocks are not heavy, but the proportion of big cuts and lard is large. Exports have steadily dwindled, and, if reports issued by the Institute of American Meat Packers are worth credence, the prospect of a large volume of European summer trade is remote; but there are people in the trade who believe that packers have been filling their cellars on a basis that will enable them to distribute meats during the summer and fall months at substantial profit.

Sheep and Lambs Continue in the Lead

The sheep and lamb market has charted its own course right along. Woolled lambs have sold mainly at \$19 to \$20, with a few as high as \$20.75, most of the shorn lambs going at \$16.50 to \$17.25. At the middle of March the market broke \$1 per cwt., dressed prices declining \$5 to \$6 per cwt.; but recovery was prompt. The slump was partly attributable to a report from London that the British government had decided to send 300,000 frozen New Zealand lamb carcasses to New York; but the stuff has not materialized, and probably will not, as ocean space is scarce. Sheep have sold at \$15 to \$16, owing to abnormal scarcity, although the dressed market is capable of absorbing little heavy mutton. April found the visible supply of lambs concentrated in northern Colorado and western Kansas feed-lots, probability being that most of it will have gone to the shambles by May 1, insuring a period of abnormally high prices, if consumers toe the scratch.

FEEDERS AND GRAZERS SHOWING CAUTION

BY SAMUEL SOSLAND

KANSAS CITY, Mo., April 2, 1920.

BULLISHNESS IS LACKING in the trade in cattle in the Southwest. The action of the market in March, which proved disappointing after a strong start, has increased the conservative feeling in the cattle trade here. Sentiment is more generally in favor of a cautious policy on the part of feeders and grazers than at any other time in the past year. If the attitude of the principal market interests is followed, investments in stockers and feeders will be made only with the expectation of little, if any, improvement in prices.

Surprise is manifest over the manner in which pastures in Kansas are being leased for summer-grazing operations. Grazers are paying between \$10 and \$12 for Kansas pastures, and the movement out of Texas now promises to be about 75 per cent of that of a year ago. A large percentage of the cattle to come out of Texas will be moved by the owners, however. The scarcity and high cost of loans, and the uncertainty as to the summer market, are restricting purchases direct from ranges. Besides, the rangemen are said to be asking more than their cattle would bring at Kansas City. The trading reported on Texas ranges is on the basis of around \$100 a head for aged steers. Stockers sold as high as \$12.50 and feeders up to \$13 here in March, with the bulk between \$8.50 and \$12. The failure of fed cattle to improve imparted an easier tone to the stocker and feeder trade.

Fed steers sold to packers during March largely at \$11 to \$13, with the top at \$14, compared with \$18.50 in 1919. The fed-cattle receipts increased in volume and were of higher quality, but the sales for the month did not average better, on the whole, than during February. Some export orders for live cattle were filled. April is expected to bring comparatively liberal receipts, with a sprinkling of south Texas grass-fat steers, the bulk of which will be absorbed at Fort Worth and Oklahoma City. There was slight improvement in the butcher-cattle trade, with sales mostly at \$7.50 to \$10.50. Calves sold

as high as \$16.50—a gain of \$2 over a year ago—while other stock averaged \$1 to \$4.50 lower than in 1919.

Stock hogs climbed to a premium of 50 cents over finished grades, with heavy buying by Iowa and Illinois. As much as \$16.50 was paid for stock hogs, against a top of \$16.10 on finished grades. The hog market rose 50 cents to \$1 in March. It is believed that an increase in the European demand would bring a sharp upturn in prices of hogs, as the purchasing power of domestic consumers is favorable to a higher market.

Lambs and sheep compare favorably with a year ago, being only slightly lower. Receipts are running ahead of last year, but the market displays a good undertone.

HIDE SITUATION STRONG

AN ACTIVE HIDE MARKET developed late in March, following a period of coma. Values of western cattle during the coming range season will depend in a large measure on the condition of the hide market, and at this writing the prospect is far from lugubrious. Packers are selling spready steer hides as high as 40 cents, and have cleaned up most of their cellar contents between that figure and 35 cents. Admitting that there is a general tendency toward deflation of commodity values, the fact remains that leather shortage will not be easily overcome. Henry W. Boyd, president of the Armour Leather Company and an admitted authority, said:

"For the first time in trade history low-grade leather is being utilized for making shoes in this country. Heretofore it has been exported, but it is now going into \$6 and \$8 shoes, for which a ready market is found. Europe formerly took our low-grade surplus, but this trade has been effectively squelched by the high rate of exchange. As this improves, England will again become a buyer. The trend of prices at present is upward, as there exists an undoubted shortage of hides.

"Hides are 10 per cent higher in China, South America, and Australasia than in the United States. At the going exchange rate, American manufacturers are able to buy leather in the domestic market 20 per cent lower than abroad; hence, there will be no imports, even if foreigners had hides to export, which they have not."

April found Europe in the American hide market, with every indication that exports will be on a broad scale, especially if foreign-exchange conditions improve.

Hide and Leather quotes the following average prices of packer hides at Chicago for the week ending April 3, 1920, as compared with those of the corresponding week in 1919:

	Price per Pound (Cents)	
	1920	1919
Spready native steers.....	38-39	30-32
Heavy native steers.....	35-37	28-29
Heavy Texas steers.....	32-33	26
Light Texas steers.....	31-32	24½
Colorados	30½	25
Branded cows	30	23
Heavy native cows.....	35	26-27
Light native cows.....	35-36	24-24½
Native bulls	30	20
Branded bulls	27	18
Calfskins (country)	60-67½	22½-24

WOOL PRICES DECLINING

SINCE NOVEMBER, 1918, prices of wool have declined in comparison with the same month of the preceding year, according to reports received by the Bureau of Crop Estimates. The highest average price reached was 60 cents a pound in March and April, 1918. From this there was a fall to as low a figure as 47.9 cents in April, 1919. In January, 1918, the average price was 58.1 cents; January, 1919, 55.2 cents, and January, 1920, 53.3 cents. The producers' price of 16.7 cents a pound in 1913 advanced to 58 cents in 1918, and fell to 51 cents in 1919.

REVIEW OF EASTERN MEAT-TRADE CONDITIONS

For Week Ending April 2, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

Although prices were moved upward on most fresh meats during the last week of the Lenten period, it has been accompanied by the usual seasonal slow demand.

BEEF

With Monday's opening prices firm to 50 cents higher than the close of the previous week, there was a continual upward tendency throughout the week on all grades of both steers and cows. Price ranges on the several grades at all eastern markets are more nearly uniform with Philadelphia, the lowest of the three markets. Bulk of the receipts were of the medium and good grades, with only a small percentage of common steers offered. Good cows have been scarce, and prices firm to higher. The light receipts of bulls were sold on a steady to strong market, with New York showing an advance of 50 cents to \$1 during the week, and only slight changes elsewhere. Kosher markets continued unsettled, and prices fluctuated, with the tendency toward lower values.

VEAL

The demand for veal since midweek has been very uneven, with Philadelphia in a weak and demoralized condition, and prices \$2 to \$3 lower than Monday. Other markets were mostly steady to slightly lower on some grades.

PORK

Under a generally slow demand, pork prices showed considerable fluctuations, New York being the only strong point. The Philadelphia market has been unsettled since midweek, with closing prices \$2 below Monday, but practically in line with one week ago; while conditions at Boston were mostly steady, with slight fluctuations on some cuts.

LAMB

Lamb receipts have been light at all markets, and prices on the upturn since Monday. Closing prices today are \$1 to \$2 higher than Monday, and \$3 to \$4.50 higher than one week ago, with the greatest advance at Boston. Liberal importations of new veal and lambs, mostly of good quality, found ready sale at prices \$2 to \$3 below domestic lambs, and helped to relieve the shortage.

MUTTON

The week's offerings were very light and prices generally strong, with the demand at times in excess of the supply.

MARKET CLOSING

New York is closing slightly easier on beef, pork, and veal, and strong on lambs and mutton. There is a light carry-over of beef and veal. Boston closed slow and slightly easier on beef. Lambs and veal closed slow and practically steady, and pork weak to slightly lower, with a light carry-over. Philadelphia closed steady on beef, lambs, and mutton, and dull and weak on pork and veal. There is a liberal carry-over of beef, veal, and pork.

LIVE-STOCK MARKET QUOTATIONS

April 2, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

HOGS

	CHICAGO	KANSAS CITY	OMAHA
Top	\$16.15	\$15.90	\$15.50
Bulk of Sales	15.25-15.85	13.85-15.70	13.75-15.00
Heavy Wt., Med. to Ch.	14.75-15.75	13.35-15.40	13.25-14.75
Medium Wt., Med. to Ch.	15.35-16.15	14.75-15.70	14.50-15.25
Light Wt., Com. to Ch.	15.75-16.15	15.50-15.90	14.75-15.50
Light Lits, Com. to Ch.	15.35-16.00	.....	14.50-15.00
Packing Sows, Smooth	13.50-14.25	12.00-12.25	12.50-13.25
Packing Sows, Rough	13.00-13.65	11.50-12.00	12.00-12.50
Pigs, Med. to Ch.	14.00-15.50	.....	.....
Stocker Pigs, Com. to Ch. ....	.....	12.50-15.65	12.00-15.00

CATTLE

BEEF STEERS:

Med. and Heavy Wt. (1,100 lbs. up)—		
Choice and Prime	\$13.65-15.25	\$13.00-14.50
Good	12.50-13.65	12.00-12.90
Medium	11.50-12.50	11.10-12.00
Common	10.25-11.50	9.75-11.10
Light Weight (1,100 lbs. down)—		
Choice and Prime	13.65-15.25	12.75-14.25
Good	12.40-13.65	11.75-12.75
Medium	11.25-12.40	10.50-11.75
Common	10.00-11.25	9.00-10.50

BUTCHER CATTLE:

Helpers, Common to Choice	7.75-13.50	7.25-12.40	7.00-12.00
Cows, Common to Choice ..	7.75-12.00	6.90-11.00	6.50-11.75
Bulls, Bologna and Beef ..	7.75-11.00	6.00-10.00	6.00-10.75

CANNERS AND CUTTERS:

Cows and Helpers	5.00- 7.65	4.50- 6.90	4.50- 6.50
Canner Steers	6.00- 8.00	5.50- 6.75	6.50- 7.50

VEAL CALVES:

Lt. & Hdy. Wt., Med. to Ch.	16.50-18.00	13.75-16.00	14.75-16.25
Heavy Wt., Com. to Ch.	7.50-14.00	7.00-11.50	7.50-12.75

FEEDER STEERS:

Heavy Weight (1,000 lbs. up)—			
Common to Choice	9.40-11.85	9.40-12.50	9.25-12.00
Medium Weight (800-1,000 lbs.)—			
Common to Choice	9.25-11.65	9.00-12.50	9.00-11.75
Light Weight (800 lbs. down)—			
Common to Choice	9.00-11.50	8.60-12.10	8.50-11.50

STOCKER STEERS:

Common to Choice	7.65-11.25	6.75-11.50	7.00-11.25
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STOCKER COWS AND HEIFERS:

Common to Choice	7.50- 9.25	6.00-10.75	5.75- 9.50
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STOCKER CALVES:

Good and Choice	9.50-11.25	8.50-11.25	9.00-10.50
Common and Medium	8.00- 9.50	6.00- 8.25	6.50- 9.00

SHEEP

LAMBS:			
84 lbs. down, Med. to Pr.	\$17.75-20.50	\$17.50-20.50	\$18.25-20.25
Culls and Common	14.50-17.50	14.00-17.25	15.00-17.50

SPRING LAMBS:

Medium, Good and Choice	22.00-25.00
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YEARLING WETHERS:

Medium to Prime	15.25-18.25	15.50-17.75	15.50-16.00
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WETHERS:

Medium to Prime	14.00-15.75	12.50-15.25	14.00-15.75
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EWES:

Medium to Prime	11.00-15.00	12.00-14.75	12.75-14.50
Culls and Common	6.00-10.75	5.50-11.75	5.00-11.00

BREEDING EWES:

Full Mouths to Yearlings	9.00-16.50	9.50-14.50
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FEEDER LAMBS:

.....	15.50-17.50	14.75-17.50	15.50-17.50
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OPENING AND CLOSING WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED FRESH MEATS

For Week Ending Friday, April 2, 1920

[Bureau of Markets]

BOSTON

BEEF

STEERS:	
Good	\$20.00-21.00
Medium	19.50-20.00
Common	18.50-19.00

COWS:

Good	19.00-19.50
Medium	18.50-19.00
Common	18.00-18.50

BULLS:

Good	14.00-15.00
Medium	13.00-14.00
Common	12.50-13.00

LAMBS AND MUTTON

LAMBS:	
Choice	\$33.00-34.00
Good	32.50-33.00
Medium	32.00-32.50
Common	31.00-32.00

NEW YORK

STEERS:

Good	\$20.00-20.50
Medium	19.00-20.00
Common	18.00-19.00

COWS:

Good	17.00-18.00
Medium	16.50-17.00
Common	15.50-16.00

LAMBS:

Choice	\$33.00-36.00
Good	30.00-32.00
Medium	26.00-28.00
Common	25.00-26.00

MUTTON:

Good	26.00-28.00
Medium	24.00-25.00
Common	22.00-23.00

LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

SUBJOINED ARE TABLES showing receipts, shipments, and slaughter of live stock at sixty-nine markets for the month of February, 1920, compared with February, 1919, and for the two months ending February, 1920, compared with the same period last year:

RECEIPTS

	February		Two Months Ending February	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	1,485,854	1,458,357	3,374,090	3,587,957
Hogs.....	3,466,836	4,458,751	8,798,637	10,376,368
Sheep.....	1,416,776	1,157,236	3,030,950	2,751,565

SHIPMENTS*

	February		Two Months Ending February	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	602,147	537,082	1,368,251	1,309,130
Hogs.....	1,321,305	1,334,344	3,036,773	2,930,855
Sheep.....	588,735	431,276	1,297,606	1,051,350

* Includes stockers and feeders.

LOCAL SLAUGHTER

	February		Two Months Ending February	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	870,814	895,984	1,978,423	2,219,403
Hogs.....	2,138,962	3,103,670	5,738,022	7,402,871
Sheep.....	812,522	733,177	1,734,770	1,702,758

STOCKERS AND FEEDERS

	February		Two Months Ending February	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle.....	239,916	263,976	588,627	628,160
Hogs.....	84,813	47,328	174,728	97,884
Sheep.....	140,219	131,215	451,418	360,387

STORAGE HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY of storage holdings of frozen and cured meats on March 1, 1920, compared with February 1, 1920, and March 1, 1919, as announced by the Bureau of Markets:

Commodity	March 1, 1920 (Pounds)	Feb. 1, 1920 (Pounds)	March 1, 1919 (Pounds)
Frozen beef.....	222,412,671	252,036,946	265,293,467
Cured beef.....	36,966,635	36,715,182	31,245,928
Lamb and mutton....	5,775,384	7,786,680	8,012,376
Frozen pork.....	130,519,183	106,677,241	128,897,380
Dry salt pork.....	397,743,909	332,847,804	435,661,016
Pickled pork.....	359,670,293	337,238,224	435,197,393
Lard.....	111,855,796	97,648,996	125,409,603
Miscellaneous.....	109,080,244	113,228,417	132,070,407

FEEDSTUFFS

THERE WAS NO CHANGE in quotations on cottonseed products during March. April 8 the current price for cottonseed cake and meal, f. o. b. cars at mill, Texas common points, was \$63 per ton, based on 43 per cent protein.

During the past month prices for hay showed a decided advance. Demand was good for all descriptions, and supply scarce. Prices at Chicago: choice timothy, \$39 to \$40; No. 1, \$38 to \$39; No. 2, \$35 to \$36; No. 3, \$32 to \$34; choice Kansas, Oklahoma, and Missouri prairie, \$29 to \$30; No. 1, \$28 to \$29; No. 2, \$25 to \$27; Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin feeding prairie, \$18 to \$24; packing hay, \$13 to \$15; alfalfa, \$26 to \$38. Prices at Kansas City: timothy hay, No. 1, \$35 to \$36; prairie hay, choice, \$23 to \$24; alfalfa, choice, \$35 to \$36; standard, \$27 to \$33; other grades relatively lower.

Cash corn was about 10 cents, and futures 12 to 15 cents, higher than a month ago. Closing quotations of April 6 follow:

CHICAGO CASH PRICES APRIL 6

Corn, bu.	\$1.60-\$1.70
Oats, bu. ....	.99-1.02
Barley, bu.	1.66

CHICAGO BOARD OF TRADE QUOTATIONS ON FUTURES

Corn—	
May	\$1.63
July	1.57
September	1.53
Oats—	
May .....	.90
July .....	.82
September .....	.71
Rye—	
May	1.83
July	1.78
Barley—	
May	1.53
September	1.26
Mess Pork—	
May	37.40
July	37.70
Lard—	
May	20.65
July	21.40
September	21.87
Sides—	
May	18.92
July	19.45

THE WOOL SEASON PROSPECT

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., April 1, 1920.

SHEARING is now in full swing all over the United States, and, as fleeces leave the sheep's back, concern as to the prices wool will probably realize is manifested. That it will be a consignment year has been evident for weeks past, growers having very decided ideas concerning the intrinsic value of their property, while dealers detect little opportunity for speculation. This means that in a majority of cases growers will carry wool until the weaver needs it. In this respect marketing of live stock and wool differs, as there is a daily outlet for the former, while wool must wait until manufacturers need it. If the middleman carries the bag between shearing and weaving time, he charges a more or less substantial sum for doing so: when growers decide to assume the middleman's function, they must be prepared to finance the carrying process by paying interest on advances and wait with patience until their holdings can be cashed.

Enormous consumption, rather than scarcity, is the dominating influence in the wool market at present. Weavers in the United States are using 60 to 70 million pounds per month, for which no precedent exists. In February 63,700,000 pounds were consumed, against 72,700,000 pounds in January and 27,000,000 pounds in February, 1919. Percentages according to grades were: fine, 32; half-blood, 18; three-quarter blood, 18; quarter blood, 18; low-quarter, 3, and braid, 11. It will be noticed that the percentage of fine and half-blood is large, which is an unusual phase of the market at present, resulting in a wide price

range—the direct result of an insistent demand on the part of the public for fine fabrics, regardless of cost, putting a premium on fine medium wools and severely penalizing medium and coarse grades. This condition, in the opinion of trade experts, cannot continue indefinitely, expectancy being that attractive and serviceable fabrics made by blending coarse with fine wools will ultimately appeal to the sentiment and common-sense of the buying public, bringing about a readjustment of prices and establishing a healthier condition.

A high market for the entire 1920 crop is probable. While the supply is undoubtedly ample for all present needs, a steady demand keeps fully abreast of it, manufacturing equipment in this country and abroad being employed to its maximum capacity. The buying power of the public appears ample and well distributed in all sections of the country; which, coupled with the temperamental disposition of the American people to buy beyond actual needs when means are plentiful, supplies the requirements for a strong wool market. This strength has been exhibited recently at shearing stations around Chicago, middlemen paying 60 to 69 cents per pound for half-blood clips without haggling, as such purchases can be promptly turned over.

Although the general disposition among western growers is to hold wool for the final market, speculators have not abandoned the field. With an average spread of 25 cents per pound between quarter-blood, braid, and fine medium combing wool, all of which grades enter into the composition of the ordinary western clip, buyers are making a strenuous effort to pull down the average of the whole, thus permitting them to pocket a more or less honest dollar—and a dollar which they have been accustomed to regard as theirs by virtue of a long-established custom. Therefore, unless growers stand pat on their proposition to secure full value by co-ordinated effort in storing and distributing through the season as manufacturers' needs develop, a lower trend of prices may be expected. No one but the grower is interested in maintaining high levels, and both dealer and weaver will force values downward if opportunity offers.

Western growers are emerging from an unusually severe winter, with heavy outlay for feed and labor. Many are doubtless in need of substantial advances on their clips, but there is danger in excessive borrowing should financial or industrial disturbances develop, forcing the selling agent to meet a situation he cannot control, because the margin between the amount advanced and prevailing market prices may not be wide enough to insure stability. Many a grower has been sold out by his consignee on an eastern market at an inopportune moment, at serious loss, because, as his letter of advice has stated, "the advance you demanded was so excessive that we could no longer carry your wool with safety."

These, in brief, are the ideas of J. D. Holiday, president of the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company, who has made a comprehensive study of the situation. It is probable that the 1920 clip will be more closely held by growers than any that has previously been taken off the sheep's back in this country, a large percentage of the farm wools grown east of the Missouri River having been pooled, placing them in strong hands. A slow market will be the result, as weavers will refrain from stocking up, contenting themselves with buying from week to week what they need to keep machinery employed, always hopeful of a decline in prices.

NEW ZEALAND VEAL ARRIVES IN CHICAGO

ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE last month by Swift & Co. of the receipt of a carload of frozen veal from New Zealand. The veal entered the United States by way of San Francisco. The shipment was in the nature of a try-out, plenty more being available if the pioneer carload proves satisfactory as a method of reducing the cost of living.

TRADE REVIEW

INEFFECTIVE PACKER PROPAGANDA

BY JAMES E. POOLE

NO MORE EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION than the Institute of American Meat Packers can be imagined. Wherever the packer needs a boost or defense, its energetic emissaries will be found on the job. Its literature is disseminated through a thousand channels, in various and plausible disguise. Editorial vigilance is evaded, and the public regaled with "screeds" in which the inevitable championship of the packer is thinly disguised. Hold a live-stock meeting, and you will find an agent of the institute on your program; instigate a discussion of trade conditions, and the institute promptly participates. It has supplanted, economically and effectively, the old publicity system of the packers by which each concern furnished its own "dope," at the risk of contradiction and what frequently savored of mendacity. The institute does not tolerate coarse work; and yet much of its output is lacking in logic when subjected to an acid test.

Certain stock argument, much of which ought to have been long since canned, comes from the institute mill—a legacy from the discarded multiple system. The public has been told, *ad nauseam*, that one reason for high cost of meats is that there is no reliable outlet for coarse cuts. Formerly these were referred to as cheap cuts, but the joke became apparent; hence the amendment. But, while the institute experts proclaim the edible and nutritive merits of the coarse cuts, they persistently abstain from giving the consumer lucid information as to what these cuts should sell at in relation to ribs, loins, and other select grades. Obviously these coarse cuts go into circulation, as neither plates, chucks, shanks, nor other portions of the carcass are tanked; but the fact cannot be disputed that retailers exact a greater rate of profit on the so-called coarse cuts than when selling ribs and loins. Prices charged by the average retailer for shanks and plates are frequently out of proportion to what T-bone steak or rib roast costs. Once mulcted in this manner, the buyer becomes educated, so to speak. It doubtless is true that many people are not aware of the value of these coarse cuts, but assertion that they are even relatively cheap is easily disproved.

The attitude of the experts employed by the Institute of American Meat Packers is characteristic and purely defensive. The burden of their story is that the packer is maligned; that editorial and reportorial utterance on the industry is either mendacious or misleading; that the Federal Trade Commission is the fountain-head of libel, and that the packer is not getting a square deal. The institute representative has a phonographic method of procedure, his chief insistence being:

That the packer is virtually a collector for the producer; That his meager profit is insufficient to affect meat cost to consumers;

That his profit comes from by-product and proprietary articles.

Most of the problems confronting the industry are ignored by institute researchers. None of them, for instance, has attempted explanation of the fact that, while live stock has depreciated \$3 to \$5 per cwt. in a year, consumers are paying war prices for meats; nor are they disposed to help cattle-feeders out of the dilemma in which they find themselves. Recently they have been voluble in explaining that the hog market has slumped because Germany was unable to buy meats and foreign-

exchange conditions were adverse—facts patent to even the uninitiated; but why domestic consumers are still paying last year's prices for ham and bacon is not considered worth elucidation or consideration.

The Institute of American Meat Packers was conceived as part of a general plan to influence public sentiment. It might be developed into a useful arm of the trade, serviceable alike to packer, consumer, and producer; but this will be impossible as long as it follows the same well-worn paths. The public has wearied of reiteration that the packer does business on an infinitesimal margin, demanding the reason why live stock depreciates and meats advance in cost. Producers have listened to the oft-told tale of demoralized beef markets and restriction of export trade, until it goes in one ear and out the other. Nothing new ever comes out of packer publicity sources.

The Institute of American Meat Packers is getting nowhere. Its campaign to suppress brutality toward live stock in transit is constructive and deserves encouragement, although based on self-interest, as the packer is the principal sufferer by such losses as result from bruised carcasses; but, outside this, its program appears to be limited to packer laudation and defense. That the packer is efficient and enterprising will not be disputed; that his success is essential to the live-stock industry is axiomatic; but further contention that the packers, collectively and separately, are the chief benefactors of the human race, and saviors of the live-stock industry, will not receive serious consideration, any more than that refusal by the public to eat coarse cuts is the chief cause of cattle-trade demoralization.

An emissary of the institute projected himself into a discussion of the packing industry on a train running out of Denver not long since. He advanced the usual stock arguments, concluding with denunciation of such legislation as is impending as 'paternalistic and destructive. Whereupon a man in the party said:

"There are seven of us in this compartment. I am willing to assume that, if one had lost a jewel or money, the others would willingly submit to search; at least, they would unless guilty or obstinate. Now the packer is accused of getting away with something; he disputes the assertion, but expects the public to accept his denial without proof—in other words, to place implicit confidence in his bookkeeping. This has aroused skepticism that will not be dispelled until the packer says: 'To prove my innocence of these accusations, here are my books; subject them to the closest scrutiny; I stand by the outcome.' By taking that position he would promptly regain public confidence. As it is, the consumer is convinced that he is being imposed on whenever he buys a pound of meat, and a large percentage of the live-stock producers of the country attribute their adversity to packer buying methods."

If the money expended on the Institute of American Meat Packers is intended favorably to influence either producers or consumers, it is being squandered.

PACKERS' MONTHLY STATEMENT

REVIEWING THE LIVE-STOCK AND MEAT SITUATION during the month of March, 1920, the Institute of American Meat Packers has issued a statement, from which we quote as follows:

"The workings of the British Food Control, about which information now comes to hand, are of distinct interest to Americans concerned with the development of their own meat industry. The latest advices indicate that consumption of cured meats in England has fallen off about one-third as compared with pre-war figures, while prices are from 100 to 140 per cent higher than in 1914; also, that there are large stocks on hand, the surplus supply, in fact, being sufficient to last from four to six months.

"It would appear that so far government control in England has brought about conditions where meats are not only poor in quality and high in price, but that an oversupply is piling up, and, further, that the officials are unwilling or unable so to adjust prices as to clear up the situation, despite the fact

that, judging by prices at which cured pork products were bought, they could apparently be sold at lower prices without involving loss.

"Not many months ago there were some in the meat trade who shivered when the American packers readjusted their inventories and marked down their prices so as to clear up their old stocks of smoked and cured pork products. It meant a loss of perhaps \$100,000,000 to the packing industry as a whole. Today the wisdom of this American policy of merchandising is apparent. The decks are swept clean of old supplies, and the stocks now going out are mild and delicately cured, and are making new meat-eaters every day. We hear of packing concerns whose sales of ham and bacon are 50 per cent larger than a year ago.

"Much gossip is heard just now about shipments to this country of New Zealand lamb and mutton, and of South American beef. The figures have been exaggerated. The facts are that small shipments of lamb and mutton have already been received on the Pacific coast and that larger shipments are reported to be now headed toward New York from New Zealand. Such shipments were nothing unusual in pre-war days.

"Coming to details, cattle receipts are somewhat less than one year ago. At the same time, the quantity of beef to be distributed is in excess of one year ago, because of the absence this year of government purchases of dressed beef. The situation this year is just the reverse of what it was a year ago. Last year the government was buying beef to be frozen and shipped out of the country for use of the army; this year the government is selling on the domestic market its surplus frozen beef left over from the war purchasing program.

"In a general way, the beef trade has been fair during March. Prices for live cattle and dressed beef are considerably under prevailing prices one year ago.

"Recently hogs have sold in excess of \$16—the highest of the year. Increased receipts later caused a decline in the market. Light hogs continue heavily in demand for fresh-meat purposes and for filling the export sales made some months ago. There are liberal stocks of heavy meats on hand which would ordinarily go for export purposes. Lard supplies are heavier than a year ago.

"The strike of some of the workers at the Chicago Stock Yards has unhappily caused losses to many live-stock shippers as well as to the meat-packing industry. The severity of the situation has been minimized by the fact that meat-packing operations at other cities have been going forward as usual. It should not be forgotten that Chicago is not the only packing center; also, that there are over two hundred different meat-packing concerns engaged in producing meat products that enter into interstate commerce, and that altogether there are nearly a thousand meat-packing organizations of importance."

AMERICAN BACON IN ENGLAND

CONCERNING THE PRESENT LACK of demand for American hog products in England, and the reasons for the bad reputation lately acquired by these products in the British market, United States Consul-General Robert P. Skinner, at London, under date of February 3, 1920, reports as follows:

"The requisition of large quantities of American bacon and lard by the British Ministry of Food on August 9, 1919, together with their purchases before and after that date, has resulted (no doubt without intention on the part of the public authorities) in an unfortunate situation which is prejudicial to the interests of American trade in these articles, and with respect to which the consuming public should be enlightened.

"Actuated by prudential motives, the authorities built up very large stocks of these articles by seizing the consignments lying here belonging to the American packers and their agents, and also, later, the consignments that were en route. Unfortunately these quantities proved so excessive that it was impossible for the ministry to handle and distribute them with reasonable promptitude, with the result that a considerable portion of the bacon and hams, which are of a mild cure and of a perishable nature, became stale and failed to give satisfaction to the consumer.

"For example, one concern from which the Ministry of Food bought liberal quantities of hams and bacon in July last, under a guaranty of sound condition until a reasonable time after arrival in England, ascertained that the ministry (through lack of accommodation on this side) cold-stored the goods for three months in America. Consequently the bacon has arrived

here in stale condition, and before it eventually reaches the consumer it will be further deteriorated, if not tainted.

"A cablegram from these shippers to their London representatives, inquiring as to the cause of the apparent lack of demand from the British market, elicited a reply (forwarded on January 28 last) to the effect that the reasons for lack of demand were:

"1. The stale condition of all American bacon being distributed from the United States, the condition of which had seriously affected its reputation.

"2. Large supplies of Irish, Danish, and English bacon, which, together with Canadian bacon, were sufficient for the present time and were preferred by buyers, in view of the flat scale of retail prices, to bacon from the States.

"3. British traders' expectation of a reduction in the ministry's price for American bacon.

"Further, the outlook was cabled as unfavorable.

"On the date mentioned it was understood that the stocks of the Food Ministry, landed and afloat, amounted to 360,000 boxes. As agents were holding another 100,000 boxes still unsold, and traders still another 100,000 boxes unsold, the quantity on hand was, of course, immense, and at the rate of consumption then prevailing their stock represented at least twenty-eight weeks' supply."

FOREIGN TRADE IN FEBRUARY

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE has given out the figures showing the foreign trade of the United States during February, 1920. In the following table the amounts are compared with those for January, 1920, and February, 1919:

	Feb., 1920	Jan., 1920	Feb., 1919
Exports	\$646,000,000	\$730,707,863	\$587,990,478
Imports	467,000,000	473,936,610	235,187,088
Excess of exports	\$179,000,000	\$256,771,253	\$352,803,390

OUR FOREIGN TRADE IN LIVE STOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS

TABULATED BELOW are the total numbers of live stock and quantities of meat products exported from and imported into the United States during the month of January, and the seven months of the fiscal year ending January, 1920 and 1919:

LIVE STOCK

EXPORTS (Numbers)

Animals	January		Seven Months Ending January	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle	3,056	516	50,406	10,352
Hogs	2,093	1,757	12,903	5,212
Horses	544	563	12,251	20,554
Mules	1,148	439	4,919	9,540
Sheep	149	30	26,270	7,737

IMPORTS (Numbers)

Animals	January		Seven Months Ending January	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Cattle	26,971	29,937	473,623	274,593
From United Kingdom	1	1	112	1
From Canada	18,776	24,576	430,743	243,373
From Mexico	7,952	5,301	41,860	31,006
From other countries	242	59	908	211
Hogs	38	3,932	3,151	10,624
Horses	373	337	2,602	1,575
Sheep	8,611	10,684	187,299	126,881

MEAT PRODUCTS

EXPORTS (Pounds)

Articles	January		Seven Months Ending January	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Beef products—				
Beef, canned	1,081,643	12,636,000	15,593,818	81,740,568
Beef, fresh	22,872,223	17,436,495	99,757,987	252,100,437
Beef, cured	1,670,500	6,030,937	20,652,841	27,274,195
Oleo oil	3,816,303	5,552,790	42,388,134	27,831,579
Oleomargarine	1,306,408	629,903	9,697,252	4,651,558
Tallow	1,135,530	420,834	25,382,742	1,886,374
Total beef products	31,882,607	42,707,019	213,472,774	395,484,711
Pork products—				
Bacon	77,501,002	102,679,002	517,273,819	590,401,646
Hams and shoulders	13,905,923	54,846,433	165,335,277	276,720,146
Lard	38,823,902	37,850,338	339,777,457	302,673,665
Neutral lard	595,397	81,160	9,464,868	3,389,382
Pork, canned	92,427	237,728	2,320,481	1,947,405
Pork, fresh	2,271,751	31,583	11,513,353	2,140,595
Pork, pickled	4,251,187	2,237,513	24,388,414	19,764,862
Total pork products	137,441,589	197,963,757	1,070,073,669	1,197,037,701
Lard compounds	2,060,161	4,869,620	29,442,676	35,446,512
Mutton, except canned	286,043	235,882	1,900,677	1,015,346
Sausage	1,016,122	819,148	10,069,023	6,009,933
Sausage casings	1,840,887	394,834	15,828,451	2,429,493
Steatin	1,624,440	900,176	13,692,361	3,650,657

IMPORTS (Pounds)

Articles	January		Seven Months Ending January	
	1920	1919	1920	1919
Fresh—				
Beef and veal	2,717,414	3,658,790	22,024,507	21,174,499
Mutton and lamb	864,561	131,764	5,117,862	718,200
Pork	127,155	305,914	1,584,765	1,728,575
Total fresh meats	3,709,130	4,096,468	28,727,134	23,621,274
Prepared or preserved—				
Bacon and hams	80,550	279,257	456,077	2,065,361
Bologna sausage	15,004	1,393	73,847	4,670
Sausage casings	899,618	360,182	6,721,517	3,301,071
Tallow	665,707	158,743	7,348,559	5,554,148
All other meat products	388,458	197,090	3,909,222	1,935,337

LARGE COWS EXCEL IN YIELD

COW-TESTING RECORDS based on 38,532 dairy cows from 110 cow-testing associations are being analyzed by specialists of the Dairy Division of the Department of Agriculture. The tabulations have brought out a number of interesting relations between milk production, butterfat test, butterfat production, and income over cost of feed. The larger cows, it has been found, excel the medium-sized and small cows in production of both milk and butterfat.

The average annual milk production of all animals was 5,936 pounds per cow, and the average butterfat production 246 pounds. These figures are considerably larger than the average for the United States, indicating that dairymen who are members of cow-testing associations either dispose of their poorest cows or else make them more profitable by better feeding and handling.

MEAT PRODUCTION IN SOUTH AFRICA

THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA now has some 34,000,000 sheep within its borders, raised for both wool and mutton. There are over 8,000,000 head of cattle in South Africa, excluding Rhodesia, and beef, the export of which was practically unknown ten years ago, is now sent to Europe at the rate of something like 21,000 tons annually.

In this era "woolly" is scarcely a term of reproach for the West.—*Philadelphia Public Ledger*.

FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

LONDON, March 17, 1920.

INTERWOVEN with the rather feverish discussion of late on the subject of meat congestion in our ports and stores is the question of meat control as a whole. The attempt has been to force the government to a further decision as to the determination of the control period, but little has been achieved in this direction. Meat at present is only partially controlled; the Ministry of Food controls supplies and distribution of home-killed meat, fixing on maximum prices both for home and imported. The guarantee previously given to the farmers by the government does not expire until July 4, before which date there can, therefore, be no change in the price or methods of distribution of home-killed meat.

Scottish and Irish meat-producers were vigorously opposed to a recent suggestion to withdraw the farmers' guarantee and make a free market. When control falls it must be for the three kingdoms at one and the same time.

It is quite anticipated that when the control of live stock ceases the primest meat will advance in price; and it is apparent that July 4 is an awkward date, as stall-fed cattle have not been disposed of, and grass-fed cattle are not then ready for marketing. Farmers' prices then will also be at top range—namely, \$19 (reckoning \$4 to the pound sterling) per hundred-weight—and a reduction in rate by the farmers will be necessary to enable the retailers to get their supplies at a cost equivalent to \$17.60 per cwt.

Fat cattle are now priced at round about \$18 per cwt. live weight, for first grade; but supplies have not been measurably increased recently on the rise in rate. Neither is there any improvement in quality, cows and half-meated bullocks and heifers forming the bulk of the supplies at most markets. The rise in the price of home sheep by half a cent per pound has similarly caused no improvement in the supply, which is only moderate. Calves have been in keen request, practically all for slaughter and not for rearing.

The trade for store cattle throughout England shows further improvement, specimen prices realized being from \$17.60 to \$19 per cwt. live weight. Pigs are in great demand at extraordinarily high prices.

Generally throughout the country the lambing has been an average one, with favorable prospects for rearing, the exceptionally mild winter having been beneficial. Feed, though scarce, is lasting out fairly well. The fact that millers' offals will be considerably increased this coming season is in favor of stock-raising, but against this has to be set the prospect of poorer supplies of feeding barley, North America being, in particular, a short sender. Maize, also, is likely to arrive in smaller quantities.

One of the chief arguments advanced in government circles for further control of meat is the existing disparity of exchange between various countries. Bacon, of course, is particularly affected by this. It is argued that, if we take 26 cents per pound, which is a fair price delivered to the exporting steamer in the United States, for bacon suitable for consumption here, this would be equivalent, at the par of exchange (\$4.86), to approximately 1s. 1d. per pound; at the present rate of

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exchange (\$3.35) it is 1s. 7d.—a difference of 6d., which the consumer has to pay, owing to the fact that the pound sterling today is worth in America only about 13s. 9d. This state of affairs is said to necessitate the limitation of purchases wherever possible from countries of high exchange.

The government estimates that it would lose from seven to ten millions sterling if it were to reduce the wholesale carcass price of its frozen mutton stocks from 18 cents per pound, at which they now are sold to the trade, to 12 cents, which is the recommendation so widely made. At the present moment there is a total of about 8,000,000 freight carcasses of frozen meat (beef and mutton reckoned in the measure of fifty-six-pound sheep) lying either in cold store in the United Kingdom or in the cold chambers of the refrigerated ships in our ports.

A new feature which will appear this summer for the first time in the home-killed meat industry is the establishment of meat-killing works planned on the colonial and American style, in which latest methods of slaughter, conveyance, and by-product utilization are comprised. These include the factory erected at Drogheda, near Dublin, by the Irish Packing Company, Ltd., which will seek to improve upon the present inefficiencies of the live-cattle export business conducted across the Irish Channel. The meat will be carried in the company's own steamers at a cooling temperature of between 45 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit, and placed in a prime condition on the Central Markets, London, in competition with the primest Scotch beef and mutton, and the by-products will be highly organized on the spot in Ireland for the benefit of Irish industry. The company hopes to start killing in June.

Then there is the Improved Chilling and Transport, Ltd.—a concern established to run meat-killing works, first in the center of a favorable eastern-counties grazing district, in Norfolk, England, and then in other parts of Great Britain. The meat will be handled on the most approved lines, and be conveyed fresh to various markets under a special chilling process

which is the subject of patents owned by the company. This establishment also is planned to start work this summer. The Irish Farmers' Union contemplates establishing a dead-meat works on modern lines at Waterford.

CONSUMPTION OF FOODSTUFFS IN UNITED KINGDOM

THE BRITISH MINISTRY OF FOOD has published the estimated consumption of the principal foods in the United Kingdom for the year 1919, and the percentages of imported and home-grown commodities. The percentages are as below:

Commodity	Home-grown (Per Cent)	Imported (Per Cent)
Wheat	27	73
Barley	64	36
Oats	92	8
Beef and veal.....	66	34
Mutton and lamb.....	57	43
Bacon and hams.....	19	81
Butter	58	42
Cheese	30	70

FRANCE DEVELOPING FROZEN-MEAT INDUSTRY

A MOVEMENT IS ON FOOT to establish municipal cold-storage plants in every city in France and in the occupied German territory. Not only are these to supply local wants, but they will also be part of a big transit organization for supplying central Europe with frozen meat and other produce. France has now sixteen refrigerated steamers, capable of carrying 31,000 tons of meat; she has cold-storage facilities for 80,000 tons, and has more than 1,200 refrigerated railway cars. She is rapidly developing her cattle supplies in Madagascar and other colonies, and is modernizing things in Morocco.

Belgium is another country launching out in this industry. Antwerp is to have a refrigerated store for 15,000 tons of beef monthly, and plants are to be erected in other important centers, we learn from the Melbourne *Pastoral Review*.

LIVE-STOCK INTERESTS IN AUSTRALASIA

BY A. C. MILLS

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, February 25, 1920.

IT IS FORTUNATE that the drought in the northern parts of Australia has broken, as, judging by present appearances, graziers there will find it difficult to dispose of their surplus cattle profitably this year. For one thing, it is announced that the North Australian Meat Company's freezing and canning works at Darwin will not open during the coming season. Darwin is out of the usual trade routes, and, owing to the disorganization of shipping, the management has been unable to make certain of obtaining supplies of coal, etc., to keep the works running, or vessels to lift the meat when treated. Under the circumstances they have decided not to operate at all until conditions become more normal. Vestey Bros. are the real owners of the North Australian Meat Company's works, and one would imagine they must be heartily sick of their investments in the north. They alone know what the works and huge grazing leases they hold have cost, but it is certain they have sunk very considerably over \$5,000,000 in the country.

The closing of the Darwin meat-works means that graziers in the Northern Territory must either hold their cattle for a year or else take risks and travel them on the hoof many hundreds of miles to markets in the south, east, or west. There is no outlet by railroad, and feed and water on the stock routes are uncertain at the best of times. Cattle-raisers in Queensland and

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the north of Western Australia are perhaps not so badly off, although they are faced with the prospect of receiving very inadequate rates. Exactly what will happen in Queensland is not known. As mentioned in a previous letter, the state government is endeavoring to force the frozen-meat export companies to enter into an agreement to supply the state-owned butcher shops each year for five years with 20,000 tons of beef at 6 cents a pound chilled and 7 cents a pound frozen. Obviously it is the man who supplies the cattle who will have to stand the racket. He, through the producers' organizations, is protesting vigorously against the grab, but so far without effect. The state government is socialistic in the extreme and, what is more, has power under an old act of Parliament to take whatever meat it likes and at any price. Twenty thousand tons will probably represent about one-fifth of the total quantity of beef treated at the meat-works in Queensland this coming season. If the government insists on the commandeering, graziers are not likely to receive much more than \$8.40 per 100 pounds dressed for cattle sent into the meat-works. Naturally the export companies are going to protect themselves, and will only buy stock on the assumption that available supplies will be small and the beef exported will realize relatively poor prices. Unfortunately for growers, there are no co-operative meat-works in the north.

Even the above \$8.40 per 100 pounds is a better figure than cattle-owners in the north of Western Australia can expect to receive. The state government in the west recently erected freezing and canning works at Wyndham that were to provide a certain and profitable outlet for stock. Prior to that the surplus was shipped by sea to the centers of population in the south, and, when boats could be found to take them, a few hundred head went north to Singapore and the Malay Peninsula. The works at Wyndham were to obviate the waste incidental to transporting wild cattle by sea. However, owing to incompetence and official bungling, they cost such a deal of money that the government, in its endeavor to cover interest and working expenses, can only offer absurdly low prices for stock sent in for treatment. Graziers have been notified that the rate this season will be \$6 per 100 pounds over all. As there are now practically no boats available to ship the cattle south or north, owners will have no option but to accept the offer. The beef-export season throughout the north usually starts early in April. During 1919 the various freezing and canning works in Queensland and elsewhere in the north put through close on 400,000 head of cattle. The output was restricted by unfavorable weather, and also by labor troubles; otherwise it would have been a good deal larger. In view of all the circumstances, this year's handling will probably be even less than 400,000 head.

Drought conditions continue over the greater part of western New South Wales and the adjacent territory in neighboring states. This is principally sheep country of light carrying capacity, and, owing to the persistent dry spell, is now to all intents and purposes denuded of stock. Seasonal conditions in the south of the continent are only moderately satisfactory. The coastal districts have recently recorded good rains, but inland the falls since the new year have been insignificant, and

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L. G. DAVIS

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pastures are drying up again. There is still a fair amount of mutton and lamb being frozen for export in Victoria. Shipments overseas from the whole Commonwealth during January totaled 589,000 carcasses, besides about 6,000 quarters of beef, and it is estimated that there were close on 1,000,000 carcasses of mutton and lamb in store awaiting freight at the beginning of the current month.

The meat-export season in New Zealand is in full swing, and the various freezing works are having a busy time. Climatic conditions are from fair to good. The north is dry, while feed in the south is backward. January shipments overseas were small, comprising 335,000 carcasses of mutton and lamb and 20,000 quarters of beef; but it is hoped that the clearances this month and in March will be much heavier. There must be nearly four million carcasses of mutton and lamb in cool store in New Zealand awaiting shipment, besides beef and dairy produce, and with another killing season under way it is imperative that more freight should be made available at once.

It is definitely announced that the meat contract with the British government will expire after June 30 next, as far as New Zealand is concerned. That is to say, all meat received into cool stores after that date will belong to the companies treating it. How the expiration of the contract will affect prices of stock has yet to be proved. Much depends on the markets the other side of the world, and nobody can forecast what will happen to them. Another important factor will be the quantity of British-owned meat remaining in store when the contracts expire. Australian meat-traders are awaiting information as to when their contracts with the imperial government will fall out.

AUSTRALASIAN SHEEP FOR AMERICA

APPEALS TO THEIR GOVERNMENT having proved fruitless, steps are now being taken on their own initiative by Australian sheep-breeders' organizations for the removal or modification of the embargo imposed by the United States on

importations of sheep from Australia. As the chief reason for maintaining the barrier is understood to be the existence of pleuro-pneumonia among Australian cattle—which disease, it is feared in the United States, might gain entrance through the intermediary of sheep—it is felt that suitable quarantine regulations would offer the necessary safeguard. A month or two spent at an American quarantine station, it is held, would be amply sufficient to remove any risk of infection through that channel. With the object of investigating the chances for bringing about such an arrangement, it is proposed to send a practical sheepman to the United States.

While Australia is thus for the present debarred from building up a profitable sheep trade with America, New Zealand does not suffer from the same handicap. A large California sheep-breeder who recently visited the latter dominion spent considerable time traveling about the islands and picking up the best sheep, of the various breeds represented there, that he could buy. These he proposes to put on permanent exhibition on his property near San Francisco, for the benefit of sheepmen from the western states. The purchaser, we are told by the *Pastoral Review* of Melbourne, considers these animals so far superior to the ordinary run of sheep in his homeland that it is anticipated that orders for studs like them will come in rapidly.

THE PRICKLY-PEAR IN AUSTRALIA

WHAT WITH PERENNIAL DROUGHTS burning up his pastures, rabbits devouring what the sun spares, predatory animals decimating his herds, labor scarcity on the range and chronic strike troubles at the markets, deficient transportation facilities, and a score of other harassments, the Australian stock-raiser appears to be beset on every side. Not the least of the troubles making his path a thorny one is the noxious prickly-pear. To what extent this indestructible weed (which, as our readers will know, is a species of cactus) has infested large dis-

(Continued on page 38)

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JESSE ENGLE & SONS, Sheridan, Mo.

HARDY HEREFORDS

ANXIETY 4TH Sires:

Wilbur Mischief, Prince Hermosa 2d, Lord Oswald

THE S. L. W. RANCH CO., Kersey, Colo.

H. E. Witwer, President

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Sale of Anxiety 4th Herefords

MORRILL, NEB., APRIL 27

6 Bulls—44 Females

of strongest breeding. All females of breeding age
bred to BEAU MISCHIEF Bulls

Write for catalogue to L. A. BURSON, Morrill, Neb.

SHORTHORN BREEDERS

This Page

is to be devoted exclusively
to the advertisements of

Shorthorn Breeder's

and we ask your co-operation

For particulars address

The Producer

515 COOPER BUILDING
DENVER, COLORADO

Buffalo Grass SHORTHORN HERD

RAISED OUT THIRTY-FIVE YEARS

Sired by the best Bulls I could buy and breed
Twenty-five Young Bulls that will sire
Market Toppers and Champions

SAMUEL BALL, Wray, Colorado

(Continued from page 36)

tricts of the continent is thus described by a Sydney correspondent to the *Breeder's Gazette*:

"In addition to the 50,000,000 acres already in its insatiable maw, Australia is losing another million acres a year to the prickly-pear. The yearly increase cannot be checked, nor is there a product of the pear that would pay the manufacturer. Containing 90 per cent water, there is not much left for the chemist to handle. Six years ago Oliver Cromwell Roberts, of California, came over with an idea that he could eradicate it with a chlorine gas at a cost of \$2 per acre. The residual potash would be worth up to \$100 an acre. It was promising, at the outset, and the Queensland government provided Mr. Roberts with funds. But all sorts of lions lay in the path, and then the war came, which meant that the gas was not procurable. He is still experimenting, but there are no signs of success. The trouble is that, no matter how economically eradication can be performed, the cost is more than the cleared land would be worth. Moreover, in the pear zone all land under the growth is richly endowed with pear seed. During dry times stock will hold their condition on it, providing they get bran or pollard. But directly rain comes they will utterly disregard such a diet.

"The pear will grow anywhere, whether the soil is rich or poor, the season wet or dry. It is almost impossible to destroy it. A leaf hung on a wire fence, or on a galvanized iron roof, will sprout. It thrives just as well in dry times as wet; no storm can affect it. Whole districts in Queensland are given over to it, and towns have been swallowed up. To hold it within bounds so as to check further spread would cost \$15,000,000 a year and provide 20,000 men with permanent work. Every week some shire council or another reports the closing-up of another road, with reports that more settlers have given up the fight. . . . In some districts the pear has not only won the day against the settler, but it requires constant vigilance on the part of the railway department to keep the roads open.

"Years of discouraging outlook have developed an oriental resignation in the people. If this spirit is maintained, it is inevitably only a matter of time when practically the whole of tropical and sub-tropical Australia will be irretrievably lost."

CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK NOTES

BY H. S. ARKELL

Dominion Live-Stock Commissioner

THE GROWING IMPORTANCE of the Peace River and Grande Prairie districts, Alberta, as feeding-grounds for cattle is indicated in the movement of stockers and feeders to and from those districts during the calendar year 1919. During the twelve months, despite the critical feed and pasture conditions in other parts, these districts shipped out only 751 stockers and feeders, and a total of 3,756 cattle of all kinds, while approximately 20,000 stockers and feeders were shipped in. The stock-yard figures show an actual increase in holdings from outside sources of 16,244 head of cattle when compared with the holdings on January 1, 1919.

There is evidence of a tendency toward lack of depth and length of side in a percentage of the hogs now being marketed. These hogs, while possibly grading selects, lack the qualities that make the ideal bacon hog—Canada's standard in hog production—as they want in constitutional vigor and fail to make profitable gains. The correctly bred bacon hog has depth, length, and constitutional vigor to a marked degree. Lack of these qualities, particularly in breeding stock, is a terrific handicap to economical production.

A conference was held on March 24 between the Federal Department of Agriculture and representatives of the meat-packing industry of Canada, following which the Minister of Agriculture authorized a ninety-day suspension of the order prohibiting the collection of the condemnation tax on live stock sold in public stock-yards. In the interval, a committee with equal representation from producers, Canadian packers, and the Department of Agriculture will go fully into the question of condemnation, and endeavor to evolve a constructive policy, the application of which shall be fair to all concerned, and at the same time effective in steadily reducing disease in Canadian live stock.

THE SHORTHORN IN ARGENTINA

OF THE SHORTHORN EXHIBIT at the last Palermo Royal Show—which is the great annual event in the Argentine live-stock world—the experts who had come from England to act as judges expressed themselves in highly flattering terms. "The show," they said, "could be fitly described as the Royal of the World."

"As regards the prize-winning [Shorthorn] bulls in the classes, the entire lot were outstanding animals, and in all our experiences at home and abroad we have never seen so many great and grand bulls together at once. If the five winning animals from each of the two-year-old classes had been massed together, they would have formed a group of bulls that would have been absolutely unique and quite impossible to equal in any part of the world.

"We do not know where, beyond Argentina, such a collection of great bulls could be got together in one place. We can only repeat what we have said repeatedly amongst ourselves, that the bulls shown at Palermo this year, taken all round, were outstanding specimens of what Shorthorns bulls ought to be. Argentine breeders have nothing to learn from any country in the matter of breeding and perfecting Shorthorn character and type."

If Lenin and Trotzky could see the mobs of "proletarians" storming the counters to pay their income taxes, they would despair of ever converting America to Bolshevism.—*Chicago Daily News*.

ROUND THE RANGE

GROWING BEEF ON THE FARM

The breeding herd may be so handled that either spring or fall calves are raised, says Farmers' Bulletin 1073. The best time to have calves dropped is a question frequently debated among cattlemen. Some prefer having calves dropped in the spring (late in February, in March, or early in April), while others prefer having them dropped in the fall (September and October). As a rule, the question should be decided by individual conditions, taking into consideration the feed supply, pasture, equipment, and labor.

"When calves are dropped in the spring, one wintering is saved; they do not require so close attention during their first winter when carried over as stockers; cows may be wintered more cheaply by using a greater amount of coarse roughage; less labor is required to handle the calves during the winter, and less pasturage is required during the summer, since cows and calves run together.

"When calves are dropped in the fall, the cows are in better condition at calving time; they give more milk for a longer period; the calves make better use of the grass during their first summer; they escape flies and heat while small, and are weaned at the beginning of calving time.

"Spring cattle should be weaned before the end of the pasture season in the fall, to allow them some time on grass if winter pasture cannot be provided. If they are to be finished as baby beef, they should go into dry lot at the end of the pasture season, and be ready for market the following June or July.

"Fall-born calves should be weaned after they have been placed on pasture in the spring, and then a gradually increasing allowance of grain should be given them, with hay and silage added later in the summer. For baby beef they should go into dry lot for finishing at the end of the pasture season, and be ready to market in December or January.

"Calves which are not intended for baby beef need not receive grain so early or in so large quantities, because they are making their growth without fattening. They can utilize much larger amounts of roughages, such as stalk fields, meadows, silage, and straw, with a pound of cottonseed meal as a supplement. A regular fattening ration need not be supplied until the calves are mature."

NEW MEXICO WOOL-GROWERS ELECT OFFICERS

At the recent convention at Roswell of the New Mexico Wool Growers' Association the following officers were elected for the year 1920: president, Prager Miller, of Roswell; vice-president, Manuel B. Otero, of Albuquerque; secretary-treasurer, Bertha Benson.

ANTHRAX IN KANSAS

Cases of anthrax have recently been reported from Kansas. The disease has been found among cattle at Eudora and among hogs at Ogden, in the eastern part of the state. Anthrax—sometimes called "wool-sorter's disease" or "rag-picker's disease"—attacks both man and beast, although animals are the more susceptible. From the *American Breeder* we quote the following description of this serious ailment:

"In the case of beasts, anthrax takes the intestinal form. Animals usually die within twenty-four hours following infection. The disease takes the skin form in man. The victim becomes covered with malignant carbuncles, but seldom suffers from intestinal anthrax, since his food usually is boiled. The disease nevertheless frequently is fatal to man, though not so often as to beasts. Horses, sheep, and cattle are most susceptible to it, although cases are not uncommon among dogs and swine.

"Few cases of anthrax have been observed in Kansas, but the disease is quite prevalent in some of the southern states, particularly Louisiana, which is subject to overflows from the Mississippi.

"Anthrax is spread from animal to animal and to man by the blood of an infected animal, or by an animal dead of the disease. The infected blood enters through skin wounds, or may be taken into the system with the food. Discharge of blood through the natural openings of the body is the most characteristic symptom of anthrax.

"Since anthrax infection is very resistant to usual forms of disinfection, it is wise to boil all instruments that may have been employed in connection with a victim of the disease. The premises should be disinfected by covering all places that have been exposed to infection with straw or crude oil, and burning these. If any wounds on a person's hands have become infected, they should be cauterized by a physician."

NEW AILMENT AFFECTING TEXAS CATTLE

A new disease has made its appearance among Texas cattle. Ranchers in Colorado County, in the southeastern part of that state, report having lost 100 out of 500 head from it, and the disease seems to be spreading. It was at first thought that the cattle were dying from the cold and continued wet weather, but when the death-rate continued to increase after the weather had cleared up, the stockmen notified the state agricultural department, which sent specialists to investigate. Five head of cattle suffering with the disease in its different stages were killed and

Hides, Furs Pelts, Wool

Forty-two years of square dealing have earned for me the confidence of dealers and shippers in the Western territory, which is proven by the fact that I handle more hides direct from the Farmer and Ranchman than any concern in the West.

Highest Market Prices Paid at All Times

Ship your Hides to me and you will become one of my satisfied customers.

Write or wire for Quotations and Shipping Tags.

J. L. BROWN

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DENVER, COLO.

Powers Behen
The Store
for Men

—why Quality

As a clothing store in step with modern methods and imbued with the purpose of giving faultless service to our customers, we look first to quality.

Quality is the first consideration, because without quality merchandise we could not hope to win your good will nor hold your confidence

16th at
California
Denver

Wm. R. Smith J. Clark Eastes
John Smith

"Nothing But SHEEP"

Sheep Bought and Sold
on Commission Only

WE AIM AT
Efficient Handling
Intelligent Salesmanship
Full Market Values on All Sales
Courteous Treatment and
Prompt Returns

Write or wire us for
MARKET INFORMATION
or Advice

Consign all shipments
direct to

**Wm. R. Smith
& Son**
UNION STOCK YARDS
OMAHA and CHICAGO

A.J. Knollin

POCATELLO, IDAHO Box 478

Breeder of **Pure-Bred SHEEP**

Rambouillets Cotswolds
Lincolns Shropshires
Hampshires Oxfords

Romneys
Belgian Horses—Milking Shorthorns

Serviceable rams of above breeds and a few
Shropshire ewes for sale at reasonable
prices. Also a few young Belgian stallions
bred from imported stock, and a few bulls,
milking Shorthorn strain.
Correspondence solicited.

MONTANA

Herefords

FOR SALE

60 Head Registered BULLS

Coming Two-Year-Old, Native-Raised.
Beau Brummel and Beau Perfection
Breeding. Good size. Good color

W. H. DONALD
Melville, Montana

examined. In each stomach were found
a large number of hair-like worms, which,
it was thought, were responsible for
the deaths.

It is the general belief, according to the

Fort Worth Live Stock Reporter, that the
worms are taken into the stomach through
deposits on the long, tall grass, which
grew rank during the past rainy year and
which has become dry and hardened.

It takes all the way from three to ten
days, or more, for a cow affected with the
disease to die. The symptoms are similar
to those of pneumonia. The animal coughs,
blubbers at the nose, grows thinner every
day, and finally gets down, never to get
up again. The affection is not believed to
be contagious.

HOW TO PREVENT WORMS IN HOGS

Well-fed hogs in general are not subject
to worms; that is, a hog in good condition
is better able to resist this parasite than
one not in good condition. If a hog is fed
a proper and well-balanced ration, includ-
ing mineral substances as well as the
other nutrients, he is not likely to be
troubled sufficiently with worms to cause
any worry. Having free access to various
mineral substances—such as wood ashes,
charcoal, air-slacked lime, and coal cinders
—the hog will apparently take care of
the worm evil himself. It seems that
the alkali of the wood ashes, together
with gritty cinders, has a tendency to
destroy worms, says *Successful Farming*.
At any rate, these mineral substances
help to balance the ration, so that the
hog has greater powers of resistance.
If pumpkins are fed in the fall, the seeds,
which have vermifuge properties, also
help to keep hogs free from worms.
Put the feed in sanitary places, and keep
the water-troughs clean. If foul water is
allowed to stand from day to day, it
affords an excellent place for worms to
develop.

LOSSES FROM TEXAS FEVER IN KANSAS

Kansas stockmen are pressing claims
against the government, aggregating
more than \$250,000, for losses incurred
last summer and fall as the result of ad-
mission to the state of tick-infested cat-
tle. These losses are attributed to im-
proper dipping and federal inspection of
cattle at Fort Worth.

BUFFALOES MULTIPLY IN MONTANA

In the ten years since the Montana
National Bison Range was established the
37 buffaloes with which the herd was
started have increased to 296. In addi-
tion, there are on the range 125 elk (not

Sunnyside Stock Farm

Ottawa, Illinois

J. J. HORNUNG, Proprietor

Breeder of Pure-Bred Hereford Cattle
and Percheron Horses.

Specialty: Range Bulls, in car lots or as desired.

The \pm Ranch

Folsom, New Mexico

Offers for immediate delivery:

9 Head

Choice Registered

Hereford Bulls

(Line-bred Anxiety)

Bred in Corn Belt, but thorough-
ly acclimated

Ages: 4 to 8 years

Prices

\$200 to \$375

22 Head

Extra Choice Purebred
Unregistered

Hereford Yearling Bulls,

at

\$150

For further information write

GEO. A. FOWLER, JR.
FOLSOM, NEW MEXICO

Boys' Baby Beef Book Aberdeen-Angus



\$3,500 and gold watches for
prizes for boys and girls
feeding Aberdeen-Angus
calves in 1920. For the
girls, wrist watches, and
for the boys open-face gold
watches for grand cham-
pion prizes, as well as \$100
cash prizes in Minnesota
and Wisconsin state con-
tests, and \$25 in county
shows where Aberdeen-

Angus calves to the number of ten appear. Boys
and girls won championships in six states last
year with Aberdeen-Angus calves, and were
reserve champions in the other two.

Write for booklet, "Boys' Baby Beef Book."

**AMERICAN ABERDEEN - ANGUS
BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION**
817 P Exchange Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Galloway Cattle

30 HEAD 2-YEAR-OLD BULLS
and 59 SPRING BULL CALVES

Strong, rugged farm bulls, range grown.
Can spare a few females; 200 head cows
in herd to pick from.

Don't delay if you want good cattle.

E. E. FRIZELL & SONS
FRIZELL, Pawnee Co., KANSAS

including calves of last year), 33 antelope,
and 13 mule deer. It is believed that the
range is large enough to support herds of
800 bison, 400 antelope, 500 deer, and 800
elk.

DOCKING LAMBS

Lambs are best docked during their second week, and a clear, warm day should, if possible, be selected as the one on which to do the work, says *Successful Farming*.

"The docking may be done with a knife, chisel, or a special docking iron. The latter instrument is a blunt iron which is heated to a red-hot heat before using. Its advantage lies in searing and cauterizing the wound as the cutting is done. The small farmer who has only a few lambs will do just as well to use a sharp chisel. Procure a block from twelve to fourteen inches high, back the lamb up to the block, and lay the tail flat out upon it. Set the chisel about one inch from the body and at an angle, so that the lower side is a little shorter toward the buttocks. The job should be performed in a sanitary manner, and the tools should be disinfected. If an unusual amount of bleeding occurs, the stub may be tied with a clean cord. Before making the cut, pull as much loose tail skin as possible back toward the body. The extra skin helps to heal the wound."

THE HARDY MOUNTAIN-GOAT

"The mountain-goat is equally at home on rock, ice, snow, or meadow, and it lives in bands of two to twenty," says Dr. William T. Hornaday, writing in *Boys' Life*.

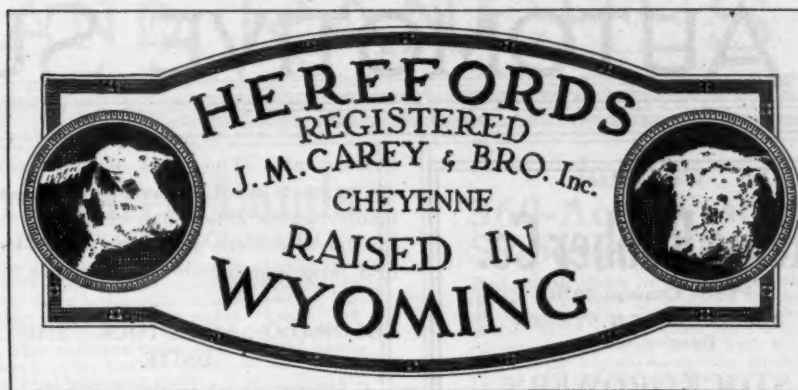
"Its big black hoofs have chisel edges for ice and a center of rubber cushion for slippery rock. In steep climbing the front of the hoof digs in like a garden trowel, and in going down steep places the rear dewclaws make wonderfully effective brakes. The heavy coat of fine and dense white wool is impervious to dry cold, but wet and cold rains quickly put mountain-goats down and out. In the East they must be sheltered from all cold rains, or they contract pneumonia and die. Of dry cold they can endure any amount.

"In the matter of food, we must say that the goat is herbivorous, and explain that it feeds on a great variety of mountain plants, according to season. On the summits they find very little real grass, but they find pulsatilla and other queer pasture plants that are literally 'just as good.' In the spring they feed on the wild onions that grow abundantly in their home pastures, which imparts to their flesh a strong onion flavor."

The mountain-goat is very warlike. A story is related of a battle between a billy goat and two Indians, fifteen dogs, and two horses.

"The Indians thought that with their horses and dogs (but no guns) they could capture the goat alive. The goat thought otherwise. A little later a squaw saw that they were having a bad mixup and ran out to the Indians with a rifle. One of them shot the goat. All but two of the dogs were killed on the spot, or died very shortly. It was with the greatest difficulty that the Indians saved their horses from getting punctured by those terrible little horns.

"It is on record that a full-grown grizzly was killed by a full-grown billy goat while the bear was killing him. The dead bodies of the two were found only a few yards apart."



Beau Belmont by Beau President
out of Belle 8th (a full sister of Beau Brummel).

Gano by Domino
out of Gentle Annie — by Kansas City.

Gleeful Domino by Domino
out of Gleeful — by Banner Bearer.

Bright Gerald by Bright Donald
out of Garfist 2d — by Beau Modest.

ALL OF THE ABOVE BRED BY GUDGELL AND SIMPSON BULLS

Perfection Wilton by Perfection
out of Wilton's Choice — by Anxiety Wilton.

Prime Lad 6th by Prime Lad 9th
out of Lovely Mary — by Onward.

Prime Lad 47th by Prime Lad
out of Clemantine 2d — by Onward.

Bright Laddie by Domino
out of Bright Lass 15th — by Militant.

Silver Dandy by Beau Dandy
out of Silvery — by Beau Picture.

Beau Gaspard by Beau President
out of Gossamer 6th — by Dandy Rex.

Graduate 2d by Beau Picture
out of Gratea 9th — by Domino.

Vain Lad by Beau Premier
out of Verity Lass 2d — by Kansas City, Jr.

Imperial Dare by Paragon 12th
out of Lady Mary 1st — by Lord Brummel.

Elbert by Majestic 24th
out of Macbeth Twin — by Majestic.

Top Notch by Majestic 24th
out of Autumn Queen — by Armour Anxiety.

Cattle are raised in the open. All herd bulls have been raised without the aid of nurse cows, with the idea of producing cows with sufficient milk to raise their own calves.

Hereford Sale

We are offering for sale 1,300 head of Steers for delivery at North Platte, Nebraska, from April 1 to April 15

These steers are all well-bred Herefords, dehorned, beautifully marked, big-boned, full-aged two's, and in excellent condition. They will be sold in lots of one car and up. Price on request.

Hall & Fenn

Live Stock Brokers
OGDEN, UTAH

The Cattle Growers of Mohave County have about

Four Thousand Steers for Sale

(Yearlings and up)

Good Grade Herefords

Any person interested in buying please address

Mohave County Cattle Growers' Association

KINGMAN, ARIZONA

SPOKANE TO HAVE STOCK PAVILION

Members of the newly formed Western Royal Live Stock Association of Spokane, Wash., at the initial meeting of the organization pledged \$10,000 toward the erection of a modern show pavilion and

live-stock arena to be the permanent home of the stock show in that city. The building is to cost \$50,000, and is to be finished this year. Through its president, Frank M. Rothrock, the association has secured twelve lots adjoining the stock-yards on the north.

AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLIES

Acme Rubber Co.

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STOCKGROWERS

Save your TIRES by proper repair work. We employ experts only in our Repair Department

Call or write for price list on repairs

Since 1903

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AUTO AND TRACTOR
Radiators

REPAIRED AND CLEANED

Distributor for Flexo, Aero and McKinnon
Cores. Tinned thruout and guaranteed
the best at a moderate price.

1331 Broadway, Denver, Colo.

ORGANIZATION PROMOTED AMONG RANGE STOCKMEN

Regulated management of the national-forest ranges during the past fourteen years has had a marked influence on development of live-stock associations. In 1917 there were 359 stock associations co-operating with the Forest Service; last year there were 544—an increase of over 51 per cent. The old system, under which each holder of a permit gave individual attention to his stock while on the range, is being widely replaced by a pooling of interests along certain lines, accomplished by forming live-stock associations, with advisory boards to handle many of the details of stock management.

In many cases these advisory boards have recommended reductions in the number of stock upon a given range; they have also suggested changes in grazing seasons, with a view to securing the greatest benefits to the users and an improvement in the range. In practically all cases associations have interested themselves in constructing range improvements, such as drift-fences; in water development, in the eradication of poisonous plants, and in similar matters. Funds for improvements are obtained through

assessments. The value of organized co-operation is most evident on range allotments, where conditions of use are very intensive, and the permitted stock belongs to a large number of small owners.

COLORADO LIVE-STOCK SHIPPERS UNITE

A federation of thirty Colorado cattle-shipping associations was formed at Denver early this month. These associations have banded together to work with the national federation for better live-stock shipping conditions. They also will co-operate with the Colorado Live Stock Growers' Association for obtaining feed-in-transit privileges for the Arkansas Valley. A claim department is to be established, together with a legislative committee to promote favorable legislation for farmers and shippers. Paul Mead, of Berthoud, was elected president, and P. A. Bauer, of Holly, vice-president. The new organization will be known as the Colorado Federation of Co-operative Live-Stock Shipping Associations.

DIVISION OF UNITED STATES FARM LANDS

One-fourth of the area of the United States is improved agricultural land; another fourth is capable of being improved for farming purposes; more than one-fourth consists of grazing land; the remainder is for the most part permanent forest land. Of the 475,000,000 acres still capable of development for farming, over 80 per cent occurs within present farm boundaries, chiefly in the settled portions of the central states and elsewhere in the eastern half of the country. The remaining 85,000,000 acres, or 20 per cent of the land still capable of development into farms, consist of reclaimable waste lands outside of present farm boundaries. Only a small portion of profitable farm land remains on the public domain.

RECORD WEIGHTS OF STEERS

What is the record weight of a steer? At the last Cardiff (Wales) Royal Show a South Devon animal was exhibited of 3,612 pounds' live weight and dressing 2,217 pounds. An Irish Shorthorn ex some years ago tipped the scales at 3,356 pounds. The latest entry for championship honors is a Taranaki-bred bullock shown at Christchurch, New Zealand, recently. This animal, declared "the greatest ox on earth," had a live weight of 3,180 pounds.



TenEyck MOTOR CO.

Chas. H. Ten Eyck

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repair job.

Dodge, Hudson, Paige
Buick Service
of which we are specialists
We repair all makes of autos and
weld all metals

815 BROADWAY
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E. R. Cumbe, Pres.

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"Rugged—Traffic—Cord"

Federal Tires

FEDERAL RUBBER TIRE
WORKS CO.

1614 BROADWAY, DENVER

21 years in the Tire business in Denver

He is said to have been bought by the Australian Meat Export Company, which is a Swift concern, to tour the United States as an advertisement for New Zealand beef.

OWNERSHIP OF STOCK-YARDS

Now that the packers, under the terms of the agreement with the government, are to divest themselves of their stock-yard holdings, it is of interest to note just how these holdings have been divided among the Big Five. From the *Chicago Daily Drivers' Journal* we quote the following:

"Armour & Co. has the largest stock-yards interests. It holds approximately 20 per cent of the stock of the Chicago Stock Yards Company—a holding company which owns all the common stock of the Chicago Junction Railways and Union Stock Yards Company—and through this ownership controls all the operating companies in the yards, including the central manufacturing district. Armour also owns the yards at Omaha, Fort Worth, Denver, Pittsburg, Jersey City, and Louisville.

"Swift's holdings are at St. Joseph, St. Paul, Sioux City, and Portland. Morris has a controlling interest in the yards at East St. Louis and Kansas City. Cudahy owns the Wichita yards."

Wilson & Co. own no yards.

FARMS AND RANCHES

For Sale or Lease

Famous Block Y Ranch in Terrell and Val Verde Counties, Texas.

282,000 Acres

in whole or parts to suit purchasers; with or without oil and mineral rights. Apply to owner:

JULIAN M. BASSETT
DEL RIO, TEXAS

Irrigated Lands

IN SOUTHERN COLORADO

THE COSTILLA ESTATES DEVELOPMENT CO. has just completed irrigating one of the finest bodies of land in the state. Excellent soil, good water rights. Prices from \$75 to \$100 per acre. Easy terms. Costilla Estates farmers raise alfalfa, field peas, wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, and raise and feed hogs and sheep. Write for literature.

THE COSTILLA ESTATES DEVELOPMENT CO.

529-530 First National Bank Building
Denver, Colorado
W. A. SMITH, General Sales Agent

IMPROVED

360-Acre Western Slope Cattle Ranch

Well fenced; under irrigation; free water rights; 30 miles from Glenwood Springs. Adjoins National Forest. Seven-room modern house, tenant house, bunk-house; running water; large horse and stock barns, with big mows, corrals, machine sheds, cattle sheds, machinery. No incumbrance.

Price \$20,000 Terms one-half cash

Address

F. D. CLAY, Ruedi, Colo.

2,000 ACRES

Adjoins railway station on two railways, 20 miles east of Pueblo, in Arkansas Valley.

75 per cent plow land, living springs, part below irrigation canal; shallow wells irrigation feasible on 400 acres; price \$12.50 per acre. Reasonable terms. Change in my plans compels immediate sale.

Chas. O. Elwood

701 IDEAL BUILDING
DENVER, COLO.

Cattle Ranch For Sale

One of the Best in the State of Nevada

3,700 Acres Valley Farm Land, all under fence.
3,400 Acres mountain range land. Sufficient water to insure crops; splendid drinking water. Two miles from town. 1,000 head of Shorthorn stock cattle. 125 head of work, saddle, stock horses. Machinery, harness, buildings. Apply

J. R. Harvey Co.

PARADISE VALLEY, NEV.

Stock Ranch For Lease

Ventura County, California - 15,000 acres, 1,100 acres under cultivation, 1,500 acres more can be cultivated; 4 boxed wells, 6 flowing springs, 7 smaller ones, well distributed over ranch; present water facilities will carry 1,500 head of cattle; lots of buildings, 5 big barns, corrals arranged for cutting, vaccinating. Only 3 miles from State Highway, 8 miles from railroad station, 38 miles from Los Angeles. Will lease for 10 years at \$15,000 yearly; renter must be thorough stockman. If there is anything you want in California lands, large or small, write

H. Stein, 157 Montgomery Street San Francisco, Cal.

LIVE-STOCK COMPANY OFFERS PRIZES TO YOUNG FEEDERS

For the purpose of encouraging a practical interest among young people on farms in the feeding of cattle, sheep, and swine, the Union Stock Yards Company of Chicago offers cash prizes on animals fed by boys and girls from ten to nineteen years of age. These animals must be fed according to the rules laid down, and shown at the International Live-Stock Exposition at Chicago next winter. The cattle contest will start on April 1, and the sheep and hog contests on August 1.

All entries to be made must come under the name of the young feeder and be filed with the secretary of the International as soon as possible after the date when the feeding period begins. Contestants are limited to two entries in any one division. The exhibitors will be required personally

to select and care for their animals without the aid of an assistant.

Requests to enter one or more of the contests must be mailed to B. H. Heide, secretary of the International, at the beginning of the feeding period, who will mail formal entry blanks. No entrance fee will be charged in the contest.

JUVENILE CALF CLUBS IN CALIFORNIA

A movement for the formation of juvenile calf clubs, which has had much success in the East, has been adopted by the California Shorthorn Breeders' Association.

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clation. Clubs will be organized in every county. Support of the banks is already assured, and the breeders of registered Shorthorns have gone on record as ready to give the movement their fullest assistance.

The plan is outlined as follows: A schoolboy or girl who has a place to keep a calf applies to become a member of the club. If admitted, a sum approximating \$150 is lent the applicant by the local bank. With this money the youngster buys a pure-bred calf. At the same time he signs an agreement to keep a record-book furnished by the department of agriculture of the University of California. At certain periods of the calf's life this book is submitted to the university, which gives advice and guidance to the juvenile breeder. The bank also gets frequent reports on the condition of the calf. As the calf grows and becomes the parent of other calves, the offspring are sold to repay the loan, and the youthful breeder is left with a nucleus for a pure-bred herd that has cost him nothing but his time and effort.

At present there are more applications from youngsters desiring to join the calf club than there are pure-bred calves available for this purpose.

WILSON REPORTS EARNINGS

The annual report of Wilson & Co., meat-packers, for the year 1919, issued last month, shows net profits, after deduction of charges and taxes, of \$2,771,325. This is equivalent, after preferred dividends, to \$10.19 a share on the 200,000 shares of no-par common stock, compared with \$7,631,535, or \$34.49 a share, in 1918. Dividends amounting to \$3.75 a share were paid on the common stock in 1919, whereas none were paid in 1918.

LABOR OUTPUT DECREASING

A survey was recently made of one of the country's big railroad shops, says *Western Laborer*, to determine the amount of work turned out by the average workman today, for the purpose of making a comparison with the output of a few years ago. It was found that the output of work

per man in 1919 did not exceed 60 per cent of what it was before the war. This falling-off was declared to be due to labor's indifference, to a reduction of the working-day from ten to eight hours, and to the abolition of piece-work, so that ten men are now required to do the same work that six men performed before the war.

TEMPLE OF AGRICULTURE

The campaign to raise funds for the "Temple of Agriculture" at Washington, D. C., conducted by the National Board of Farm Organizations, shows encouraging progress. Although intensive efforts had been confined to only three districts, the sum of \$42,000 had been secured by the middle of February. Nearly all of this had been collected through the farm organizations.

A MULE WITH A FOAL

A Queensland correspondent to the *Pastoral Review* of Melbourne writes that a jenny mule on his ranch has a foal. The mother is from a half-draft mare by a Catalonian jack, and the foal is by a blood horse.

A few instances of mules with foals have been reported in this country. Can any of our readers furnish us with the facts of an authentic case?

THE SHARK AND THE PALMETTO

For thousands of years the shark has had full sway, and today is consuming more eatable fish than are caught for the market, we read in *Hide and Leather*. Sharks multiply rapidly, the mother shark giving birth to as many as sixty young at a time; so the government is very eager to encourage their destruction and promote new shark products, such as meat for food, skins for leather, and oil for mechanical purposes.

"Shark fins may be sold to the Chinese, who consider them a delicacy; the backbone when dried makes a very good cane; the teeth and eyes may be made into scarf-pins or cuff-studs; and what cannot be used more profitably can be made into fertilizer—a commodity of which the country is much in need.

"Skins of sharks tanned with palmetto extract make an excellent leather. The tanning can be done comparatively cheaply in Florida, and the leather sent to eastern tanneries to be finished.

"Both sharks and palmetto are a pest in Florida, and must be destroyed in order that the sea may yield more fish and the land give forth an abundance of foods. Attempts to annihilate them singly have been expensive, but a combined attack promises much success. The joint development of the shark and palmetto industries has some interesting possibilities. Agents of the government, representing both the Bureau of Fisheries and the Department of Agriculture, are looking into the matter."

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50—	\$ 3.00
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200—	\$10.00
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THE WOMAN'S CORNER

THE PRODUCER invites its women readers to send it contributions, ideas, suggestions for this department. Co-operate with us in making the "Corner" just what you want it to be. Address all communications to Editor Woman's Corner, THE PRODUCER, 515 Cooper Building, Denver, Colo.

WHAT ARE WE GIVING OUR CHILDREN TO REMEMBER?

[Mabel Compton]

LOOKING BACK ACROSS THE YEARS, most of us recall a few shining spots—an occasional recollection from childish days that clings to us still. Perhaps it was the meadow, or the apple trees in bloom, or the first robin in the springtime. Perhaps it was the winter evenings around the fireside, when father smoked his pipe-of-peace and read, and mother sat close by with her sewing-basket and homy chatter about our work and our play and whatever we were interested in—or should have been if we were not. Perhaps it was the Friday-afternoon good times at school—the spelling-match and the games, and the songs, and the dear, delightful giggling times with our very best chum. Or perhaps it was some of our barnyard friends. It may have been one or a dozen of these that we look back and smile over—it may be through tears—now and again, year after year.

Or it may have been none of these. Perhaps there was a vacant chair by the fireside. Perhaps there was no home at all. Perhaps there were strange faces and unkind voices. Perhaps there were surroundings or conditions that blinded us to the orchard or meadow and deafened our ears to the call of the birds. Perhaps it was a tattered or frayed gingham dress that we wore to one "Friday afternoon" at school, and were frowned upon in open contempt or smiled at in half-veiled amusement.

Whichever and whatever they were, we owe our thanks—or it may be forgiveness—to someone else for them now. For they were not very much of our own making or conscious choosing. They were merely indelible pictures, upon the sensitive plate of the child-mind, of the child-land where uncertain little feet had wandered through—and it made all the difference in the world who held your hand. And since it means so much to us now what those childhood days held of hint or promise, is it not of some interest and with some cause for concern that we look into the future, wondering what we shall have left our boys and girls to reflect upon when they shall have reached our age?

THE CHILDREN'S WORK

One of the big home problems is that of getting the children to assist in the work about the place; not merely as a compulsory task and a matter of obedience, but willingly and cheerfully. Involving, as it does, several important points in child-welfare and home training, it is a question well worth a little more thought and consideration than is usually allotted to it in the average household.

Children are not normally workers. Their natural instinct is for play. It is not a sign of any special perversion that your boy would rather go fishing than dig dandelions. And if your ten-year-old little Betty would really rather pare the potatoes than play lady, there is something wrong. What sport is there in dandelions and potato parings? There must be "something in it." Daddy and mother may see the dignity and useful-

ness of labor, may respect the necessity of potatoes for dinner and appreciate the beauty of a well-kept lawn; but Betty and Bobby certainly do not. It is too much to expect of their infant minds. Those things must come with years and training, with example and experience.

Perhaps we should need to puzzle our brains less often over some more effective method of punishment if we kept this very thing before us and did not demand things entirely beyond their ability and their limited mental capacity. It is not sufficient, quite, that a child should be physically able to perform a task. He has just as much right to have that task provided with some interest and incentive as have his elders. Indeed, his need of them is greater; for an adult may perform his labors faithfully purely out of a sense of duty, however distasteful and undesired the work may be; but it is sometimes

painfully trying to a child to complete a task in which he sees neither profit nor pleasure.

Instead of driving Bobby to do poorly what he might just as easily be led to do well and willingly, why not supply a little of that lacking interest and pleasure? Why not add a little touch of color to the sober business of tending the hens or making beds?

Try the little home partnership plan. Give Bobby a small share in the garden and Betty a share in the hens. It is wiser, for obvious reasons, not to give Bobby a row in the garden for his own, and then expect that his discrimination in tending the weeds in your ten rows and his one is going to be strictly impartial. Likewise it is folly to imagine, in the case of sole ownership, that Betty's affections will not lean pretty strongly in the direction of her own pet Plymouth Rock. Let them have these little possessions of their own, too, if it seems advisable—perhaps as a reward for attending well to the duties in common. But let them have their own little share in the big, real things as well. And let their success in doing their part have a certain definite aim and result. Let it provide them with a small amount of spending-money, entitle them to certain recreations, or to the acquirement of some dearly desired treasure they have set their hearts upon.

It is a simple plan that meets the simple, childish need. Its idea of reciprocity leads the child into habits of co-operation. It establishes a relation between work and pleasure, between earning and spending, effort and reward. It gives Bobby and Betty something to think about and plan about, and serves to point out to them the advantage of certain forms of useful occupation over that which is merely diversion. In time it comes to stand for a certain equation in values. By and by the boy sees that an hour every day after school invested in chores instead of play means a tidy sum at the end of a month or two toward the vacation trip to town that he is hoping for. So work may turn out to be play, after all.

And in the meantime mother and father get a lot out of it, too—more companionship, better understanding, and a better footing with Bobby and Betty. The children have come to be a real help. Their work is no longer "not worth the trouble it takes to get it out of them." And last, but not least, it does away with the everlasting nagging and tagging that is the bane of a child's existence.

THE BEST COFFEE

Once I belonged to that army of sisters who don't know good coffee from bad. I put an uncertain amount of coffee in the pot with an equally uncertain amount of water, stood it on the range, and let it boil until breakfast was ready. But one

day my baby sister came home from college with a lot of high-falutin' ideas and as bossy as an old-maid aunt. We were having a little company dinner, and Bess was there. She took a swallow, choked a little, and set down her cup—then looked at me accusingly. When the company was gone she nabbed me. "Do tell me," she said, "how you manage to make such slop! Do you mean to say that you serve that stuff to John regularly—or was it just an accident? Why, it ought to be grounds for a divorce instead of just—coffee grounds!" Well, it was horrid stuff—muddy, and with all the coffee flavor boiled away. So I submitted, gracefully I hope, and was shown how to make coffee of really delicious flavor and clear as a crystal.

First she laid down the law about the pot. It must be washed, scalded, and aired each day. And once a week it must be filled with cold water, with a good spoonful of soda added, and boiled out. Thus it was always fresh and clean, and very little discolored. One need not buy the most expensive brands of coffee, but it is better and more economical to buy a fairly good grade. It has more strength of flavor and requires less to a cup, so that it really goes farther. Have rich cream for coffee, if you can. If you must use milk, boil it down a little, and add it to the coffee hot. The flavor will be much better than if the cold, raw milk is added.

And the coffee directions were just the good old-fashioned rule for boiled coffee with egg which we have all seen and forgotten because we didn't realize at the time what an important item it was. For each cup allow one round- ing tablespoon of coffee—a little more or less if you like it rather strong or weak—and one spoonful "for the pot." Add one egg and mix thoroughly with the coffee; then the required number of cups of freshly boiling water—one cup "for the pot." The idea is that you cannot very well drain the last cup from the pot—you must allow enough to have one left. Place on a hot part of the range, give it a stir with a spoon, and let it boil up quickly. Remove at once to a part of the range where it will keep piping hot. But it must not so much as simmer. The least bubbling will keep stirring up the grounds from the bottom. Let it stand about fifteen minutes, and serve. I came to agree with Bess that good coffee is a treat and poor coffee an abomination.—E. V. M.

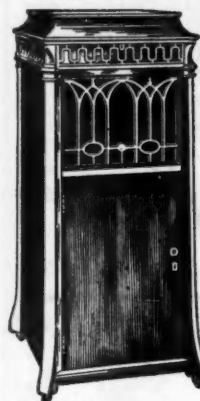
THE LETTER-BOX

Old grass-cloth rugs may have their days of usefulness doubled and their appearance much improved by being treated each year with a coat of thinned house paint of some neutral shade.—E. T.

If a bit of white soap is dissolved in the water with which cold starch is to be made, the starch will not stick to the irons.—A. W. H.

Many disappointments may be avoided in cooking with sour milk if exact measurements are used and the soda is thoroughly mixed with the other ingredients. Use one level teaspoon of soda to one pint of sour milk, and add one-half teaspoon of baking-powder. Sift with the flour and salt. The results will never be so good if the soda and baking-powder are dissolved in the milk. The moisture causes

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the immediate escape of much of the gas which is intended to lighten the food.—M. B.

Having taught school for five years before my marriage, I brought to my new home a lasting impression of the importance of a time, as well as a place, for everything. Habits of regularity are conducive to both health and happiness. The labor and serving in the household should have the same allotted hours each day, as nearly as possible. The meals in particular should be served punctually at a set hour. In the same manner, certain days of the week should be assigned to certain kinds of work. In this way there is always a stated time for mending, cleaning, washing, or baking, and one knows exactly how and where to figure in engagements to advantage. And, by doing each thing in its proper turn and time, there is never a great accumulation of left-over duties—three days' work to do in one. There is nothing new in this idea, of course. But there are still so many housewives who have never worked out a rational system for running their households that it is quite worth reminding them about.—Mrs. L. BROWN.

What Did She Mean?—A busy business woman had engaged outside help to wash and clean up house. As they entered the kitchen, on arrival of the help, who had been recommended as a jewel, the mistress said:

"This kitchen's in an awful state, Mary. I—"

"Never mind, missey; I've used to white folks."—Ladies' Home Journal.

THE KIDS' CORRAL

HOW THE HYACINTHS GREW

[Evelyn Stein]

A VERY LONG WHILE AGO there lived in the peninsula of Greece a great and noble people. They dearly loved the blue sky and the green earth, the sunlight and the moonlight, the air and the water—all the beautiful wonders about them; and they believed many strange things concerning them. In the eastern part of their country is a lofty mountain named Olympus. Around its base it is covered with long, flowering grasses and gay blossoms, and tall trees clamber far up its sides; but beyond these it grows bare and rocky; and then, by and by, high and higher still, its topmost peak is lost in the pearly clouds that forever float about its summit.

And the Greek people, watching this beautiful mountain, and seeing it always tipped with shining clouds, said to one another: "Surely that is the gateway into heaven!" They believed also that twelve powerful gods dwelt in heaven, and that Zeus, the strongest and mightiest of all, was king over the sky and the earth, and that he had fastened his great throne in the pearly cloud-land just above Mount Olympus.

Of the other divinities—for it was so they spoke of their gods—almost all had splendid palaces along the Milky Way, which is the avenue of the sky and is paved with little stars, like bright diamonds. But one of the richest houses of all belonged to the god Phoebus. He ruled over the sun, and used every day to drive it across the sky in a great chariot of flame.

Phoebus was tall and glorious; his hair was bright like gold, and he always carried a golden bow and a quiver of golden arrows; for nowhere in all the world was so skillful an archer as he. And this was not all—Phoebus was also a marvelous musician. He owned a hollow tortoise-shell that had been given him by Hermes, one of the twelve gods. Hermes had found the shell by the sea-shore, and had bored tiny holes along its edges and strung it with nine linen strings. Then, finding he could play upon the strings, he called the shell a "lyre," and gave it to Phoebus; because Hermes knew that the sun-god loved sweet sounds. In truth, when he held this lyre and touched its strings with his finger-tips, the music he made was so enchantingly sweet

that all the gods would gather close about to listen. And then, when sometimes he sang, they would forget even the loveliness of Olympus and all the starry heaven about them, and could think of nothing but the bewitching sweetness of Phoebus' lyre and voice.

Now, at this time there lived in Greece a young boy named Hyacinthus. Phoebus, day by day, as he drove his chariot of golden fire from east to west, used to look down and see Hyacinthus playing in the fields and meadows. And, as the boy was so gracious and gentle in all his ways, Phoebus came to love him as if he had been his own brother. Indeed, he used often to come down out of heaven for no other reason than that he might be with his dear Hyacinthus. It pleased the mighty sun-god above all things to do any little kindness to the pretty boy. Sometimes they went together fishing, and it was always Phoebus who carried the nets; if they started into the forest to hunt, it was Phoebus who led the dogs. The more and more the two were together, the more and more deeply they loved one another—till it came to pass that the sun-god even neglected the sun, and forgot his lyre, in his delight in Hyacinthus.

At length, one bright summer morning, when Phoebus was paying a visit to his little boy friend, Hyacinthus, who had been lying on the grass under a tall mulberry tree, jumped to his feet and said: "Dear Phoebus, this is such a long, beautiful meadow—let us play a game of quoits!" "Yes," said the sun-god, "so we will!"

The quoits were large, flat rings of iron; and to play the game one had to toss each ring over a tiny post driven into the ground and called the "mark." While the two were busy fixing the post in the soft earth, and getting ready for the game, they did not notice that the west wind, named Zephyr, was all the while blowing in quick, angry gusts.

Now, Zephyr, too, loved Hyacinthus, and was jealous because he cared more for Phoebus than for it; and so it resolved to do him harm.

When the game was ready, Phoebus' turn came first. He raised the quoit in his right hand, poised it lightly for an instant, and then flung it high and far. The heavy iron ring seemed to fly through

the air, and then, as it fell toward the mark, Hyacinthus, delighted with the sun-god's skill and eager to make his own play, ran forward to snatch the ring the moment it should touch the grass.

But suddenly, just as he put out his hand to take it, "Puff—Puff," the wicked west wind blew a sharp blast, and the quoit trembled, turned sidewise, and struck poor Hyacinthus a cruel blow in the forehead! With one pitiful look of pain his lovely eyes closed, his head drooped, and he fell fainting to the ground.

When Phoebus saw this, not knowing it was Zephyr who had turned the quoit, and thinking himself to blame, he gave a sharp cry of grief, and sprang to Hyacinthus' side. He lifted him gently, and tried with all his power to stop the stream of purple blood that flowed from the boy's forehead. But he could do nothing; and so, in a little while, he knew that Hyacinthus must die. Phoebus, thinking of this, cried bitterly, and wished many times in his heart that the heavy quoit had struck himself and that he might suffer and die instead of his beloved friend!

At last, seeing that Hyacinthus no longer breathed, he kissed him tenderly; and then, stooping low between the bending grasses, he buried his face among their feathery tassels, and softly whispered something to the earth. And, by and by, a wonderful thing happened! Where the purple blood had fallen from Hyacinthus' forehead there grew up—slowly, slowly, unfolding leaf by leaf—a beautiful purple flower like a string of tiny bells! And Phoebus called the flower "Hyacinth," from the name of his dear little dead friend.

And to this day, every springtime, when the hyacinths break into blossom, their dainty bells seem to tinkle happily in the sunshine, and the soul of the little Greek boy lives again in their sweet fragrance.

EARLY BIRDS

[Evelyn Stein]

"Twitter, twitter, twitter!"
All among the leaves
Hear the swallows waking
Underneath the eaves!

"Twitter, twitter, twitter!"
All the east is red.
Fie upon the lazy
Folks who lie abed!

But the little children,
They are truly wise,
With the early birds now
Opening their eyes.

All the world is rosy,
Waiting till they wake.
Hark! A thrush is sweetly
Singing for their sake.

Daffodils are dewy,
Apple-boughs are gay;
All the smiling earth now
Beckons them to play.

THE POETS' PEN

AN APRIL DAY

[Perrin H. Lourey in Contemporary Verse]

DAWN

A morning of gold and green,
And a path to the top of a hill,
Music and scent and sheen,
Color and flame and thrill;

Sap in the veins of the tree,
Twitter and bud and birth,
Hope in the heart of the bee,
And love in the whole of the earth.

AFTERNOON

The clover nods, the bees are loud,
As drowsily content I lie,
And distance turns a fluffy cloud
To castles in the April sky.

The murmur of an orchard stream
Comes dimly down the perfumed ways;
My languid fancies drift and dream
Through all the golden yesterdays.

TWILIGHT PRAYER

Lift from my heart, O God, I humbly pray,
This sense of sweetness that I cannot bear!
The dying beauty of Thine April day
Is touched with sacred splendor every-
where.

NIGHT

Sleep in the eyes of the sky,
And a hush in the hearts of the stream;
Slumberous fields that lie
Burdened with beauty and dream.

Silence and shadowy light,
And a graceful crescent curled;
Peace on the lips of the night,
And God in the width of the world.

A SINGLE HOUND

[W. H. O. in Punch]

When the opal lights in the west had died,
And night was wrapping the red ferns
round,
As I came home by the woodland side,
I heard the cry of a single hound.

The huntsman had gathered his pack and
gone;
The last late hoof had echoed away;
The horn was twanging a long way on
For the only hound that was still astray.

While, heedless of all but the work in hand,
Up through the brake where the brambles
twine,
Crying his joy to the drowsy land
Javelin drove on a burning line.

The air was sharp with a touch of frost;
The moon came up like a wheel of gold;
The wall at the end of the woods he crossed
And flung away on the open wold.

And long as I listened beside the stile
The larches echoed that eerie sound,
Steady and tireless, mile on mile—
The hunting cry of a single hound.

HANDS

[Wilfrid W. Gibson in Atlantic Monthly]

Tempest without; within the mellow glow
Of mingling lamp and firelight over all—
Etchings and water-colors on the wall,
Cushions and curtains of clear indigo,
Rugs, damask-red and blue as Tyrian seas,
Deep chairs, black oaken settles, hammered
brass,
Translucent porcelain and sea-green glass,
Color and warmth and light and dreamy ease.

And I sit wondering where are now the hands
That wrought at anvil, easel, wheel, and
loom—
Hands, slender, swart, red, gnarled—in
foreign lands
Or English shops to furnish this seemly
room;
And all the while, without, the windy rain
Drums like dead fingers tapping at the pane.

A COSSACK SONG

Life is against us;
We are born crying;
Life that commenced us
Leaves us all dying.
We are born crying;
We shall die sighing.
Shall we sit idle?
Follow Death's dance?
Pick up your bridle,
Saddle and lance!
Cossacks, advance!

Stars in your courses,
This is our answer:
Women and horses,
Singer and dancer,
Fall to the lancer!
That is your answer!
Though the Dark Raider
Rob us of joy—
Death, the Invader,
Come to destroy—
Nichevo! Stoi!

HEAVEN

[Mary C. Davies in Touchstone]

Heaven is a pleasant town.
Pleasant folks reside
On its streets, and up and down
Through the countryside.

All the folk are neighborly;
When we first moved in,
Most immaculate to see,
Clean and washed from sin;

Greeting came from every side,
Kindly welcoming;
This to folk who late have died
Is a pleasant thing.

Heaven is a pleasant place,
Fair its hills and trees;
But in any neighbors' face
Are no memories.

INVITATION TO THE ROAD

[P. F. Birkett in Sydney Bulletin]

Philippa, hark to that reedy note!
It never came from a feathered throat.
It's Pan with the pipes at his bearded lips
Calling "Philippa, Philippa, burn your ships!
Come with your lover alone today
Over the hills and far away!"

"Philippa, come to the dappled wood
Before its laurels are cut for good,
Or ever the skylark of youth is flown—
Bird-in-hand's better than Bird-alone,
And the only tune that the Panpipes play
Is 'over the hills and far away.'"

Curled in my heart like a small, sweet snake
I feel the Romany urge awake.
New-found love, though your eyes are blue,
Well I know you are gipsy, too!
We'll mount and ride through the golden day
Over the hills and far away.

We'll ride at east through the gold of noon
Till dusk floats up with the golden moon,
Hung like a lamp in a lilac-tree,
A light for lovers like you and me,
Till the love-tide ebbs, and we sink to sleep
On a bed of bracken spread wide and deep,
To wake and ride at the dawn of day
Over the hills and far away.

THE TREES

[Alice Brown in Harper's]

The bare white birch, like a bather, bends
over the river,
As still as a dream.
Not a twig of the tree in air is astir, not a
quiver
O'er-ripples the stream.

The roots of the tree in the air and the tree
in the water
Are met, and entwined.
One stem is a scion of the earth and one is
the daughter
Of that stillness divine.

Yet, when the dusk falls or ever a wanton
wind bloweth,
One sighs and is gone.
And which was the tree and which was the
image none knoweth,
For both were as one.

THE POPLARS

[Nellie B. Miller in American Forestry]

Now with the breath of coming rain
The poplars sway in troubled row,
Like old wives, rocking to and fro
In pain;
They shake their heads in shocked surprise
And whisper underneath their breath,
Like mourners in a house of death;
Then lift their aprons to their eyes
Again.

APRIL.

[William Watson]

April, April,
Laugh thy girlish laughter,
Then, the moment after,
Weep thy girlish tears!
April, that mine ears
Like a lover greetest,
If I tell thee, sweetest,
All my hopes and fears,
April, April,
Laugh thy golden laughter,
But, the moment after,
Weep thy golden tears!

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PROTECT THE SNAKES

"There is a movement on foot, almost world-wide in its scope, to stop the destruction of harmless snakes," says *Thrift Magazine*, "because they feed on insects and their larvæ, moles, house and field mice, and other plant and vegetable enemies."

"In this country, California was the first to start in the movement. On the Pacific coast the most destructive agent of the crops is the gopher, or ground-squirrel. As soon as it was learned that the gopher snake lived solely on the gopher, a state-wide campaign was started to protect the snake. Then two or three of the eastern states were aroused to the fact that their agricultural interests were aided through the protection of native snakes."

"The mole, which is such a menace to the lawn, garden, and crops, can only be annihilated by the snake. The rat—carrier of contagious diseases, terror of the poultry-raiser, and wholesale destroyer of all sorts of grain—is a delicacy to the snake."

"The poisonous varieties of snakes can be detected, often before being seen, by the peculiar, nauseating, cucumber-like odor. As a rule, no snake will bite a human being unless first attacked."

THE SPICE BOX

Progressive Town.—"I see," remarked a gentleman as he paid a small newsboy for his paper, "that you are putting up a good many new buildings in your town."

"That is the only kind we put up here, sir," replied the little fellow, with a touch of civic pride.—Judge.

Waiting for the Fun.—The portly gentleman strolled up to one of the seats in the park, and, having seated himself comfortably, was soon absorbed in his newspaper. After a while he began to be annoyed by a small boy who persisted in steadily staring at him, and at last he could bear it no longer.

"What are you looking at, little boy?" he inquired. "Is there anything funny about me?"

"Not yet," replied the youngster, "but there's going to be when you get up. Them seats have just been painted."—Farm and Home (London).

Next in Order.—KIND OLD LADY (who has just given Ted some candy)—"And now what do you say, my dear little man?"

"Got any more?"

High and Low.—MAGISTRATE.—"Did I understand you to say that the parties used high words?"

POLICE WITNESS—"Their voices were pitched rather high, sir, but the words used were extremely low."—London Answers.

Explained.—"Walter, why do you bring me this same potato day after day?"

"Well, sir, you never eat it."—World.

Avoiding Any Mistake.—An old Scottish lady was asked as to the whereabouts of her husband. She replied:

"If the ice is as thick as Henry thinks it is, he is skating. If it is as thin as I think it is, he is swimming."—Tit-Bits.

Accident to a Shirt.—HUSBAND (looking up from the paper which he has been reading)—"I see Thompson's shirt store has been burned out."

WIFE (slightly deaf)—"Whose?"

HUSBAND—"Thompson's shirt store."

WIFE—"Dear me, who tore it?"—Blighty.

Small Talk.—"I'm going over to comfort Mrs. Brown," said Mrs. Jackson to her daughter Mary. "Mr. Brown hanged himself in their attic a few weeks ago."

"Oh, mother, don't go! You always say the wrong thing."

"Yes, I'm going, Mary. I'll just talk about the weather. That's a safe enough subject."

Mrs. Jackson went over on her visit of condolence.

"We have had rainy weather lately, haven't we, Mrs. Brown?" she said.

"Yes," replied the widow. "I haven't been able to get the week's washing dried."

"Oh," said Mrs. Jackson, "I shouldn't think you would have any trouble. You have such a nice attic to hang things in."—Tit-Bits.

"Ae Fond Kiss."—SENIOR PARTNER—"Young man, we are cutting out all the dead wood in this business."

JUNIOR CLERK—"I shall be sorry to have you leave us."—Life.

Testing the Parson's Faith.—A little Scotch lad greatly coveted a fine Jersey cow belonging to the minister of the local kirk.

"Do you believe in prayer?" said the good little boy to the minister.

"Most certainly I do," was the reply.

"But," insisted the questioner, "do you believe, if I prayed hard enough, God would give me a cow like yours?"

"Certainly, if you had equally good reasons for possessing a cow, and your faith was sufficiently strong."

"Then," came the immediate rejoinder, "you give me your cow and you pray for another."—Tit-Bits.

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